Daily Report

Latin America

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Caricom Takes Part in Defense Summit

FL2407214895 Bridgetown CANA in English 1642 GMT 24 Jul 95

[By Rickey Singh]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, July 24, CANA — The Caribbean Community (Caricom) will be taking part for the first time Wednesday in a hemispheric-wide ministerial meeting on security and defence organised and hosted by the United States. Presiding at the meeting in Washington will be U.S. Secretary of Defence, William Perry, whose list of invitees cover the entire Caribbean-Latin America region, other than Cuba, against which Washington maintains a 33-year-old economic blockade.

The Caribbean Community Secretariat told CANA that it was not in a position to confirm the level and extent of representation from Caricom but it was expected that the 14-member Community, "will be fully represented".

At their recent 16th Summit in Guyana, Community leaders decided to accept Perry's invitation to participate in the 'Hemispheric Ministerial Conference on Security and Defence'. The leaders recognised the need for, "appropriate attention to be given to security and defence issues, especially as they relate to narco-trafficking, terrorism, the movement of refugees and monitoring of maritime activity" in the region, a spokesperson for the Secretariat told CANA.

Caricom leaders or their representatives attending Wednesday's meeting are expected to be in Washington by Tuesday to strategise on a "common approach in the best interest of this region," said one Eastern Caribbean prime minister.

The draft agenda, prepared by host United States, remains a secret. But CANA learned from authoritative sources that topics proposed include:

Armed Forces in a Democracy.

Ways to improve mutual co-operation in international peace-keeping operations outside the hemisphere and humanitarian assistance activities; and

Development of confidence and security building measures.

On the issue of the functioning of the armed forces in a democratic state, the American organisers of the meeting expect discussion on "civilian oversight, professionalism, human rights and the challenge of restructuring roles and missions with fewer resources".

Common training, doctrine and equipment are some of the areas likely to be covered when participants address the agenda item: "Ways to Improve Mutual Co—operation in International Peace Keeping Operations Outside our Hemisphere".

The meeting also hopes to focus attention on a forthcoming November meeting in Santiago, Chile, on 'Security and Confidence Building Measures'.

The Caricom governments' particular plans on regional security matters, including combatting illegal drugs and money laundering, are expected to be reviewed within the context of the 'common approach' strategy to be devised at their preparatory meeting Tuesday in Washington.

More on Summit

PA2507014595 Maracaibo PANORAMA in Spanish 24 Jul 95 p 1-7

[Report by Julio Reyes]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Colombian and Venezuelan defense ministers will meet in the U.S. city of Williamsburg, Virginia, beginning tomorrow to analyze various binational topics involving security and defense. They include the problem of kidnappings in Lake Maracaibo's southern area and the rest of the Tachira and Apure states' border.

This meeting of the Colombian and Venezuelan ministers will take place during the meeting of defense ministers of the United States, Canada, and 32 Latin American and Caribbean nations, who will address the topic of military cooperation and democracy in the entire American continent.

The defense ministers' meeting will open with a speech by U.S. Vice President Al Gore. Only one defense minister will be missing: Raul Castro. Even though he is the Cuban defense minister, he was not invited because he is part of the only government in the continent with which the United States does not maintain diplomatic relations.

The United States has been careful in stating, through international news agencies such as REUTER, that the meeting does not have the objective of dictating Washington's desires to its southern neighbors, but rather seeks to promote greater bilateral ties between nations such as Colombia and Venezuela and Argentina and Chile, among others.

In the case of Colombia and Venezuela, Defense Ministers Fernando Botero and Moises Orozco Graterol will focus on the grave problem of the increase in kidnappings along the border, guerrilla incursions, and drug trafficking in Zulia, Tachira, and Apure states as well as in Guajira, Arauca, and Norte de Santander Departments.

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They will also address the problem created by the kidnapping of Guasdualito Mayor Jesus Antonio Rojas on 8 July in a town near La Victoria, Apure State.

They will also discuss the proposal for military action or "hot pursuit" by both countries to combat guerrillas and drug trafficking, which would entail a 50-km common border area in which the two armies could act.

Regarding the issue of car theft, the defense ministers will discuss some ideas to implement the agreements already signed by the congresses and presidents of the two nations.

The agenda of the rest of the ministers attending this important event includes the struggle against drug trafficking, military operations to maintain peace in the world, ways to halt arms proliferation, and ways to promote economic growth in Latin America and the Caribbean.

"Democracy does not guarantee peace and stability. There are a number of challenges that threaten the prosperity, stability, and security of each region," U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry said in a statement reported by international news agencies.

Ecuadoran Troop Mobilization Spotted on Peruvian Border

PY2407194295 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1841 GMT 24 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Lima, 24 Jul (EFE) — Lima newspaper EL COMERCIO reported today that for the past few days there has been a mobilization of Ecuadoran troops on the Ecuadoran-Peruvian border near the Ecuadoran town of El Oro.

Residents of Peruvian towns on the border with Ecuador have reported that the Ecuadoran military movement increased before dawn on 23 July in the vicinity of El Oro, on the Ecuadoran-Peruvian border.

After touring the area, Peruvian journalists confirmed that on the Ecuadoran side, in the so-called Lomo de Zorro region, near the International bridge between Peru and Ecuador, three Ecuadoran military men were spotted on top of a water reservoir surveying Peruvian territory with binoculars.

The EL COMERCIO report adds that the journalists also spotted an Ecuadoran military camp that reportedly houses about 250 military men carrying HK rifles, camouflage gear, and helmets.

After they became aware of the presence of journalists, the military hid.

EL COMERCIO also reports that an Ecuadoran Army patrol was also spotted hiding in some trenches in Chacras de Ecuador, near the La Palma township in Peruvian territory.

Peruvian farmers who live near the border confirmed that Ecuador has been mobilizing troops for the last four days and that the mobilization increased before dawn on 23 July.

Reports suggest Ecuadoran military men are reportedly being mobilized from the Santa Rosa and Arenillas barracks.

The Peruvian Armed Forces Joint Command has not issued any official communique on the mobilization of Ecuadoran troops near the border. Peruvian military activities are normal and no mobilization order has been issued.

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Cuba

Radio Marti Report Shows Decline in Miami Cubans' Stock

FL2407195195 Havana Cuba Vision Network in Spanish 1630 GMT 24 Jul 95

[From the "NTV Midday Broadcast" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Miami's extreme right wing continues to curse the U.S. Government as its star declines in Washington. Their hostility comes as a result of the U.S. Government's coldness towards the Helms-Burton bill, and also the immigration accords, because they change a U.S. policy that has filled the pockets of the people who are currently berating those accords.

In the midst of this conflict, a report by the U.S. Information Agency accuses businessmen Mas Canosa of interfering in the work of the anti-Cuban stations created [word indistinct]. At the time, Mas Canosa was the most influential voice in the media, but now it is said that his interference distorted the policy against Cuba, severely undermining immigration initiatives. In addition, the report states that Mas Canosa fostered reprisals against station workers who did not fully coincide with his personal interests.

Ileana Ros and Lincoln Diaz Balart — Mas Canosa's spokespeople in Congress — immediately made charges of alleged CIA politicization.

The crux of the matter is that the U.S Government believes that the existing pressures against Cuba are sufficient, whereas the extreme right wing wants to install a docile government in Cuba, hoping that all their properties will be returned.

This controversy indicates that Miami's stock has drastically fallen in the White House.

Officials Meet Saharan Envoy on Referendum Preparations

FL2507023795 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Jul 95

[From the "Exclusive" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] Ibrahim Moufar — special envoy for Mohamed 'Abd al-Azziz, president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic — is in Cuba to discuss preparations for his country's referendum under UN auspices. High-ranking Cuban Foreign Ministry officials and Cuban Communist Party Central Committee members have met with Moufar on his country's views on free, fair, and transparent elections, the results of which are guaranteed by the United Nations.

Rosales Addresses Graduates on Revolution's Survival

FL2207180095 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jul 95

[From the "NTV" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] marked the 42d anniversary of the Moncada Barracks attack today, during commencement ceremonies at the (Jose Luis Tacende) National Academy of Sergeants and Instructors [ENSI] in Havana Province. The professional role that sergeants play in the rational and adjusted response to the nation's economic reality was considered when making structural changes within the FAR. This is the ENSI's 10th commencement ceremony:

[Begin FAR First Vice Minister Ulises Rosales del Toro recording] Today, more than ever, as the minister said just a few days ago, friends and foes are realizing that the Cuban Revolution will continue to survive into the year 2000 and for many years beyond because the Cuban people's courage and will to win are as firm as stone and steel. That is more than enough reason to continue our struggle. In the great battles that we will face on all terrains, we are convinced that [words indistinct] FAR combatants and that we will not be discouraged by our sergeants and instructors. [end recording]

The graduates demonstrated their capacity and combat training. They now have the mission of passing these experiences and abilities on to other soldiers nationwide:

[Begin Rosales recording] You have demonstrated the ENSI's quality today. From this moment on, you must honor that school by training the combatants. Congratulations! [crowd applauds, shouts: "Socialism or death! Fatherland or death! We will win!"] [end recording]

UBPC Evaluations Show Weakness in Financial Planning

FL2007140695 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jul 95

[Commentary from Miosotis Fabelo from the "Exclusive" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] Today I want to discuss Camaguey's Basic Cooperative Production Units' [UBPC] annual performance assessment. Their economic situation is very different than it was in 1994. Profits were expected in 107 sugarcane UBPCs due to programs implemented to reduce costs in the recently ended harvest.

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However, the situation is not very promising. Predictions show that only 40 percent of the UBPCs will be profitable, whereas 26 percent of them will have losses, and therefore, will not receive economic aid. There are also UBPCs which will surpass anticipated losses, creating a difficult financial situation in the province.

This situation results from different causes, such as substantial reduction in revenues due to low sugarcane yield, excessive rise in harvest expenses, high prices of Agroindustrial Complex services to the UBPC, problems in the cattle industry, and the inefficiency of self-supplying plans.

The difficult financial situation of Camaguey's UBPC at the end of their economic balance also follows planning shortcomings, because there was not proper evaluation of all financial indicators in the different UBPCs.

Thereby, to achieve UBPC recovery, it is now time for further analysis, strict control of financial planning, precise implementation of contracts between CAI [Agroindustrial Complex] and the UBPC, and specially hard work and dedication.

Farmers' Markets Seen as Contributing to Stability

PA2207143295 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 2119 GMT 20 Jul 95

[Article by Antonio Rondon: "Cuban Economy Faces New Challenge of Consumers"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Havana, 20 Jul (PL) — The intensity of transformations in Cuba today closely touches Cubans, who appear to have exhausted their initial expectations of an economic recovery and are now centering their hopes on definitive stability.

A natural thermometer of that sensation can be found in the progress of the farmers' markets, which emerged, among other reasons, because of the need to palliate the difficult situation of supplying foodstuffs to the people and which officially introduced supply and demand.

The initiative has surpassed expectations, and the Cuban table now has agricultural products that were scarce after the economic crisis, prompted by the tightening of the blockade by Washington and the disappearance of the socialist bloc and the Soviet Union.

Nonetheless, nine months after these markets were implemented with the participation of state and private sectors, there is a growing demand for price reductions and for an expansion of such installations.

Fausto Sabitne, administrator of a farmers' market in the city municipality of Playa, noted in statements to PRENSA LATINA that among the causes of price immobility are the use of middlemen, who purchase products from peasants and sell them in those local markets.

According to Sabitne, 70 percent of the merchants in his commercial center are small farmers (private) and the rest are made up of cooperatives and state sectors.

The functioning of these markets contributes to reducing excessive money in circulation, which was over 12 billion pesos (same figure in dollars at the official rate of exchange) two years ago. At the same time, however, the buying capacity of the population has been partly reduced.

The island residents are facing a transformation process, which includes a monetary revaluation, rationalizing of available jobs, and diversification of the economy (mixed companies, corporations), among others.

A new situation looms as a challenge for Cuban authorities. They must strive to overcome it, without harming the interests of the people. The authorities must be capable of satisfying the people's vital needs at the same wage levels.

The question on how to overcome this situation always points to a single way out: To increase production, even when the methods for acceleration are in constant debate.

Fuel Deficit Could Result in Rice Production Losses

PA2507035695 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Jul 95

[Report by Alcides Garcia, from the "National Radio News" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] According to Maurillo Fernandez Guerra, director of the CAI [Industrial Automation Center] Fernando Echenique, in Granma Province, local harvesters are obtaining 1,212 quintals of rice per caballeria and national efficiency records have been set.

[Begin Fernandez Guerra recording] However, as of 1 July we have been having irregular fuel supplies. We need 21.5 metric tons of fuel daily, and we have been receiving an average of 12.3 metric tons. So far this month we have a 127-ton deficit, and this has made it impossible for us to keep up the ground-preparing activities, the sowing, harvesting, and drying of rice.

This is affecting farms. There are some farms that have not been able to harvest rice for the past three days. There are rice-drying installations that have not been able to turn the rice and the temperature of rice is going up thus spoiling the quality of this product. We hope this problem can be resolved immediately, because we could have a disaster that could destroy the work of

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seven months right when we are on the verge of securing superior results or at least of recovering top efficiency in rice production. [end recording]

The fuel deficit could result in serious rice production losses in Granma Province.

Only 32 Caballerias in Camaguey Planted With Sugarcane

PA2207234995 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Jul 95

[From the "National Radio News" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Only 32 caballerias out of a total of 176 caballerias planned for 20 July were planted with sugarcane up to yesterday. Among the causes for the delay and the nonfulfillment of sugarcane planting in Camaguey Province are the rains, which are having an impact on preparation and soil.

In the race to clean up the lands, however, the [word indistinct] are maintaining a good pace, with over 21,500 caballerias having benefited from their labor, and other tasks, such as fertilization, irrigation, and fumigation, are progressing well.

The 750 members of the [word indistinct] labor column are also engaged in higher priority tasks; that is, planting and replanting. Despite the efforts of the agroindustrial workers and the mobilization of the CTC [Cuban Workers Federation] and other organizations, the sugarcane planting goal for 26 July of slightly more than 200 caballerias is not being reached in Camaguey Province.

Complexes Register Positive Results in Holguin Province

PA2207124395 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Jul 95

[From the "National Radio News" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] The 10 agroindustrial complexes in Holguin Province have registered positive results in the sowing, weeding, fertilization, and farming of sugarcane.

The specialists who make up the support group of the commander in chief and who toured the areas of numerous basic cooperative production units remarked that, in the past five years, Holguin has done the best work regarding attention to sugarcane plantations.

Holguin Province is considered one of the country's leading sugar producers, and it is expected to increase production substantially in the coming harvest. This goal assumes a larger sugarcane production for this year, [words indistinct] by more than 100 million arrobas.

Comrade Jorge Luis Sierra Cruz, first secretary of the Communist Party in Holguin Province, stated his confidence to the support group of the commander in chief that Holguin residents will do their share to revive the country's economy.

Panel Discusses Sugarcane Harvest

FL2207005295 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 17 Jul 95

[Studio conversation between program host Felix Fernando Garrido and journalist Eloy Concepcion; from the "Doing Radio" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Garrido] Eloy Concepcion is here to discuss the sugarcane harvest. With what issue would you like to begin?

[Concepcion] I think it would be a good idea to summarize the results of the national sugarcane harvest during the first 15 days of July. We must recognize that all provinces have tried to maintain the momentum they had at the end of June. They backed off somewhat during the first week of July, then picked up the pace. Some provinces, such as Camaguey, Ciego de Avila, Sancti Spiritus, Pinar del Rio, and Villa Clara must do everything possible to reach their weeding goals by 26 July. I believe that weed infestation is a very serious problem because it threatens all the work done during June.

[Garrido] We must take advantage of the climatic conditions.

[Concepcion] Yes. It will be very difficult to meet July planting goals. It is only 14-percent complete; only 433 of the July target figure of 3,014 caballerias have been planted nationwide. This is mainly due to two factors. First, all the land was used by the end of June to complete the spring campaign. Second, the soil has not been prepared. Now the problem is putting the machinery in high gear to see if we can make up the deficit. It will be very difficult, but we must try to do it.

July is also an important month for irrigation. The situation in some of the provinces is disturbing, such as in Holguin, Guantanamo, Matanzas, and Havana, which have large areas to irrigate. The irrigation systems must be working perfectly to irrigate the fields because the dry season is about to begin in these provinces. This is important. The other problem I was discussing this morning with (correspondent) Cabrera Peinado from Pinar del Rio is the damage done by animals. He told me that there are places there where the animals have eaten the recently sprouted sugarcane. This is a problem affecting sugarcane cultivation throughout the nation. I think we need to investigate this lack of

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discipline and responsibility because both the farming enterprises and the Basic Cooperative Production Units deny responsibility. The Ministries of Agriculture and the Sugar Industry should take truly strong, serious measures on this issue.

Finally Garrido, I want to discuss the following: Three provinces — Santiago de Cuba, Holguin, and Havana — are in very good shape in regard to planting. As I mentioned previously, only 433 caballerias, or 14 percent, of the 3,014 caballerias planned have been planted nationwide.

Regarding replanting [resiembra], four provinces — Holguin, Santiago de Cuba, Pinar del Rio, and Matanzas — have done a good job in July. Nationwide, 37 percent of the goal has been reached. I believe that the replanting work is progressing well.

In the case of weeding, the four provinces that are in very satisfactory shape are Pinar del Rio — excellent efforts in weeding, but not in planting and controlling animal damage; Camaguey, with 55 percent weeded; Sancti Spiritus, 52 percent; and Havana, with 50 percent weeded. The nation as a whole has reached 43 percent of the plan, which means that it is going well overall.

However, another important issue is related to the days of rest associated with the 26 July festivities. It would be a little unrealistic to think that everyone could stay behind tending the fields, yet it would also be interesting if a major effort was made to stagger the days off so that work on the sugarcane would continue throughout those days, and, above all, so that weeds are brought under control before 26 July.

[Garrido] Thank you for your thoughts on the sugarcane harvest, Eloy.

Juragua Nuclear Plant Feasibility Study Nears Completion

FL2107200695 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1630 GMT 21 Jul 95

[Dialogue between Anchorman Julio Acanda and Reporter Jose Luis Rumbao; from the "NTV" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Acanda] The study to determine the feasibility of reinitiating work on the Juragua Nuclear Power Plant [CEN] in Cienfuegos is about to conclude. Jose Luis Rumbao has more details. Good afternoon.

[Rumbao] Good afternoon to you and to our viewers. I am very pleased to be able to bring this information to them. The feasibility study, or the study that establishes solid possibilities for the CEN, is about to conclude, according to the specialist with whom I spoke yesterday when I visited the CEN. We toured the facilities and assessed the condition of the equipment and efforts to preserve it. These specialists had at least three to four weeks to complete this feasibility study.

[Acanda] What does this study consist of?

[Rumbao] Well, the feasibility is the reality of the CEN today. As you know, two years ago — almost three years now — in September 1992, the work on the CEN had to be stopped due to economic problems, not only those affecting Cuba, but those facing designers and producers of the system, which is completely Soviet.

This feasibility study was carried out by foreign enterprises interested in forming a joint venture or joint enterprise in which Cuba would participate. In the end, the foreign enterprises would buy the final product, electric power, which we need very much.

[Acanda] Rumbao, will the three years of paralysis affect the quality of the work?

[Rumbao] Well, that is what everyone was asking themselves and what I went to find out. There is an entire system to preserve the equipment, which was implemented from the time work was stopped, and which continues today. According to the specialists, the majority of the equipment there has already been adequately maintained — that was the term they used. The feasibility study shows that there will be no difficulties. They expect to have to change fewer than 10 percent of the parts. For example, in this video clip, we can see what I was able to see there. This is what the cameraman was able to tape of the warehouse. After being preserved with grease and paint, etc., the equipment and valves are stored in this warehouse. There are approximately 21,000 of that type of valve that we just saw. There are another 11,000 parts larger than three meters, which are also being stored there, and which belong to the CEN's reactor.

[Acanda] Rumbao, another thing: People abroad have spoken about a possible tragedy in Cuba like the one that took place at Chernobyl.

[Rumbao] Well, the conditions of CEN's reactor are very different from those of the Chernobyl nuclear plant. It is completely different in design. However, the initial design of this reactor or of this block of reactor, type (beveer), which is not the same type of reactor that existed in Chernobyl — along with that dome the viewers just saw on their television — allows for a series of security measures in case of an emergency, because human error can occur in any activity where there is human intervention. Nevertheless, it is impossible to compare the two reactors because their designs are completely different. This design, which is a Russian

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design from before the 80's, has been modified several times. I can say, for example, that the plant's security system, known as the (SAP-PT), is a western system similar to the one that exists in the (Lovisa) Nuclear Power Plant in Finland, and similar to the type of reactor at the (Pax) Nuclear Power Plant in (Hungary), two of the safest plants, according to a report by the international regulating agency.

[Acanda] Thank you, Rumbao, for coming to the studio with this important subject. We hope you can return soon to provide us with more details on the subject.

Plant Directors Cited on Study

PA2307134895 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 2139 GMT 21 Jul 95

[By special correspondent Argel Calcines]

[FBIS Translated Text] Cienfuegos, Cuba, 21 Jul (PL) — While poised to conclude a feasibility study on the technical and economic aspects of resuming construction of the Juragua Nuclear Power Plant, Cuban specialists are continuing their work to preserve the equipment and construction that was halted in September 1992.

"As of today, we have satisfactorily preserved 70-80 percent of the equipment," Director Isaac Alayon Gutierrez told PRENSA LATINA. The plant is located in south-central Cienfuegos Province, 235 km from Havana.

The installation is unmistakable because of the dome over Reactor No. 1, whose construction is 90 percent complete. Next to this, in its early stages, is a potential replica of the first large mass of concrete and steel — the structure to house the second nuclear reactor planned under the technical project.

In 1982, Cuban institutions and the former Soviet Union approved the general plan for the site, which contemplated four units with VVER-440/318 Russian nuclear reactors similar to those installed in nuclear plants in Loviisa, Finland, and in Paks, Hungary.

However, as a result of the difficult economic and financial situation Cuba experienced after the collapse of the Soviet bloc, in 1992 Cuban authorities decided to halt construction of the plant, in which more than $1 billion had been invested, Alayon Gutierrez said.

"This sum includes what was spent on infrastructural development — a dock designed to withstand heavy loads, a number of access roads to the nuclear plant, a city of 2,100 apartments, and other public works that had been completed," Alayon Gutierrez said.

According to Alayon, the technical-economic feasibility study to complete the first unit will be ready within a few weeks. This project includes the participation of Italian, British, and Brazilian firms, as well as Russian and Cuban experts.

"Starting from there, the negotiations to create an economic partnership responsible for completing and operating the nuclear plant will begin, and they will involve the participation of Cuba, Russia, and interested third-party partners," he explained.

Meanwhile, the temporary mothballing tasks continue to be implemented, including protecting the fixed, portable, electrical, and automatic equipment from corrosive conditions typical of the humid tropical environment.

"Needless to say, corroded equipment has been detected and properly treated, and in other cases its replacement has been arranged with manufacturers in Russia," Manuel Leon Consuegra, deputy director of the plant, remarked.

The reactor drum will soon be placed within the dome, along with its six steam generators, as part of the work to assemble the No. 1 Unit, which, according to the people in charge, has been 20 percent completed thus far.

In addition to the inspection of the equipment, maintenance plans, they explained, include the examination of the pipeline welds, among other tasks linked to the implementation of a quality safeguards program in keeping with recommendations made by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"A work plan that allows the prompt detection of flaws and their correction is being implemented at the nuclear power plant in Juragua," confirmed Deputy Operations Director Pedro Abigantus, who also referred to the reactor's design and safety conditions.

The specialist stressed that since 1989, considering the limitations and problems encountered with Soviet automation, Cuban experts decided to equip the plant with a Western instrumentation and control system. "To meet this objective, Cuba worked with the German firm Siemens for more than a year," he pointed out.

Abigantus argued that 50 percent of the deficiencies attributed to earlier generation VVER-440 reactors already have been corrected at the project level in the B-318 model destined for Juragua. Other necessary modifications, he added, will be incorporated before the plant goes on line.

The directors agreed that once construction work resumes, the Cuban nuclear power plant "will take approximately three and one-half years to become integrated with the domestic electric power network," even though,

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they admitted, the country's thermoelectric plants will have to be modified in parallel within that timeframe.

As of 1993, electric power totaling 3,716.5 megawatts, more than 80 percent in thermal plants mostly of Soviet and Czech origin, was installed in Cuba. The nuclear plant will supply 15 percent of the nation's electric power and replace approximately 700,000 tons of oil a year.

More Comments by Directors

FL2207024195 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jul 95

[Report by Jose Luis Rumbaut from the "NTV" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Feasibility studies requisitioned by foreign enterprises possibly interested in forming a joint enterprise will culminate in the opening of the first nuclear power plant in Cuba.

[Begin recording] [Issac Alayon, Juragua Nuclear Power Plant, CEN, director] We expect the feasibility studies to be completed within approximately five to six weeks. [end recording]

For three years, the near-30 hectares of the largest investment of the Cuban Revolution have been preserved, the parts also preserved and kept in storage.

[Begin recording] [Pedro Jimenez, Basic Industry Ministry specialist] We have maintained the standards from the beginning; it can therefore be guaranteed that the plant has been maintained in complete compliance with the standard set by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA].

[Manuel Otero, CEN assistant director] What have we done? To date, we have every guarantee that the equipment can be used again when construction on the plant is resumed. [end recording]

For 15 years, hundreds of Cubans have dedicated their youth to this giant which, once it is functioning, could offer 417 megawatts, some 15 percent of current national electricity production. This electricity will be much cheaper than that obtained from burning fuel. The technological design of the Juragua reactors will make reliable, safe energy production possible. Currently, the first reactor is 90-percent complete, and the most important parts for completion of the plant are already in Cuba and preserved.

For the first time, Cuban television is showing the inside of the reactor, two steam generators, and other important parts, the security and conservation measures for which have been carried out in accordance with the demands of the IAEA.

The feasibility study is about to be completed. Never has construction on the Juragua Nuclear Power Plant been closer to being resumed.

[Video shows wide exterior shots of domed plant, with construction cranes and large silos nearby; wide interior shots, with greased valves lying on the plant floor, large green tank-like structures with brown bolts supporting vertical pipes with shutoff valves, two shirtless men moving crates with a forklift in a warehouse-type facility, more crates and green pieces of equipment with large brown prongs protuding upward; wide exterior shots of electrical pylon, plant, a large storage tank with a ladder and pipe running up one side, eight silo-like structures on poured concrete bases with a catwalk circling the tops of the silos; wide interior shots of a reactor, with wood planks and scaffolding inside tunnel-like structure with holes in its walls and three men standing near a generator-like piece of equipment; wide exterior shots of security guard through steel gate bearing a "stop" sign in English.]

Roundup of Economic Developments

FL2407004695

[FBIS Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on Cuban economic developments monitored through 23 July.

The Geocuba military maritime studies enterprise is considering whether it will be possible to turn the Granma naval military academy into a high-class tourism center. (Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Jul 95)

Juan Gualberto Gomez International Airport, in Varadero, Matanzas Province, reported approximately $6 million profit in the first six months of 1995, surpassing goals by seven percent. Airport Director Leonardo Perez Perez said that passenger movement increased 11 percent when compared to the same period in 1994. (Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Jul 95)

Cienfuegos tourism workers donated $4,000 in tips to the health sector during the first six months of 1995. They have pledged to donate $9,500 this year. They donated $10,000 in 1994. (Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Jul 95)

Approximately 850 families in Guantanamo recently received prefabricated homes to replace homes washed away by rivers overflowing as a result of the heavy rains over the last two years. Over 400 homes are currently under construction, the majority of which will be delivered on the occasion of the main ceremony in

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Guantanamo marking 26 July. (Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Jul 95)

Camaguey Province completed 2,270 homes in the first half of 1995, exceeding the number of houses built during the same period in 1994. (Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Jul 95)

Holguin agriculture workers harvested over 800,000 quintales of vegetables and tubers in the first six months of 1995, compared to 432,000 quintales harvested during the same period in 1994. (Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1930 GMT 19 Jul 95)

The EU has donated $300,000 for the development of a home gardens program in Havana. Seeds and supplies will be distributed to approximately 8,000 gardeners in Playa, La Habana del Este, San Miguel del Padron, Marianao, La Lisa, Boyeros, Arroyo Naranjo, and Cotorro beginning 25 August to help in the first phase of the project to increase vegetable production. (Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Jul 95)

Approximately 300,000 metric tons of humanitarian aid collected by members of the fifth friendship caravan from the United States and Canada arrived at Manuel Puerto Pena dock, in Havana, on 20 July. The donation includes medicines, powdered milk, and school supplies. (Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jul 95)

British solidarity organizations have donated $400,000 worth of computers and marine supplies. (Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jul 95)

Jose Ramon Fernandez, Council of Ministers vice president, has received six metric tons of medicine from Galician solidarity groups. He expressed gratitude for the donation on behalf of Cuba. (Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jul 95)

'Squatters' Evicted From Former Hotel Included Children

FL2007121995 Bridgetown CANA in English 2259 GMT 19 Jul 95

[From CANA's broadcast news summary for 20 July 1995]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [no dateline as received] In Cuba, a large group of families who had moved into a near-empty former hotel in Havana's Old City were evicted on Wednesday. Reports say the group, estimated at more than 100 people including women and children, was forcibly moved from the five-story building. Uniformed police guarding the building entrance on Wednesday declined to give details of the incident. Those evicted were apparently considered illegal squatters by local authorities. The Cuban capital, especially Old Havana, is suffering from a severe housing crisis.

Haiti

Defense Minister on Border 'Brigades'

95CA9198 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 24 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The meeting of defense ministers from the Americas, chaired by Vice President Al Gore, begins today. [passage omitted]

National Defense Minister Wilton Lherisson said our country will participate in this meeting as an observer. He also said during a news conference that, consequently, he will not be authorized to speak or to sign any document. [passage omitted]

Regarding the policy for defending Haitian territory at the present time, since Haiti has no army, Minister Lherisson said brigades [not further identified] have been set up to monitor the Haitian-Dominican border at several points. He emphasized that the country can always count on the stipulations of the San Jose Pact, which he thinks offers a sure guarantee in case of aggression. The minister explains.

[Begin Lherisson recording in Creole] We signed the Costa Rica pact, the San Jose Pact — that's the name, right — of Costa Rica, and it is that pact which, should a problem arise, would authorize us to call on other units, other coutries, to come help us. You can (?destroy yourself) at a border. Just as in management, proper management of the border allows you to take advantage of the proximity of another country.

We say that we are going to get the border area in order. We have a brigade in Malpasse, a second brigade that was established this week in Ouanaminthe, and we will certainly have — perhaps in August — another brigade, which we are going to establish in Belladere. [end recording]

Finance Ministry Reports Revenues Increasing

95CA9200 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 24 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The national economy is behaving well. According to a report by the Ministry of Finance, during the month of June the situation evolved according to the forecasts and within the framework of a strict application of the measures decided in the government's economic and financial program. The ministry attributes this positive evolution of the indicators

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to the effectiveness of the revenue-collecting administration and to the soundness the current fiscal policy.

Revenues increased continuously from April to June, with a monthly average of 188 million gourdes. The total revenues for the month of July [as heard] are of 264 million gourdes. At the end of the third quarter, the fiscal revenues totaled 634.24 million gourdes. The Ministry of Finance says that these figures show a distinct increase in comparison to the preceding three months.

Meeting Suggests Changes to Electoral Apparatus

95CA9195 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 24 Jul 95

[FBIS Editorial Report] During a meeting with the Haitian executive last week, "the representatives of several Haitian political parties suggested that corrections be made to the electoral apparatus, within strict respect for the electoral law and the law governing the functioning of the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP]."

"The participants suggested that the changes be made at the level of the Department Electoral Offices, Communal Electoral Offices, and polling stations. According to President Aristide's spokesman, Yvon Neptune, such changes could favor better collaboration between the parties and the CEP. During a news conference last Friday, Mr. Neptune, who declined to reveal the names of the different political groups that had participated in the meeting in question, said that almost the majority of the political parties present agreed to go back on their earlier position of not participating in the rest of the electoral process. Neptune also pointed out that Mr. Aristide encourages all legal political initiatives that might help defend the nascent democracy."

The report continues: "For his part, Mr. Micha Gaillard of the National Congress of Democratic Movements [Conacom], who attended that meeting, says the meeting's objective was to find grounds for an understanding, in view of the crisis to which the controversial elections of 25 June have given rise."

"Questioned as to the validity of these meetings, Mr. (Rosemond Pradel), a member of Conacom's general secretariat, affirms that it is up to President Aristide to reconcile the parties in conflict within the framework of an acceptable consensus — despite the fact that a good part of the Haitian political class rejects the results of the 25 June elections." [sentence as heard]

"On 22 July, Conacom leaders reaffirmed their position of refusing to participate in the electoral process. Speaking during a news conference, Conacom candidates asked the president of the Republic to fully shoulder his responsabilities vis-a-vis the electoral process. Conacom's leaders suggested to Haitian Minister of Culture Jean Claude Bajeux that he stop being in solidarity with the Smarck Michel government."

"The National Front for Change and Democracy, FNCD, for its part, declined the invitation extended to it by the presidency. One of the FNCD's spokesmen, Turneb Delpe, confirmed that the FNCD did not attend that meeting, which he considers a bit of showbiz [preceding word in English]. For Delpe, no compromise is possible with the current authorities. The current members of the CEP must go and new elections must be held."

"Senator Rony Mondestin's Movement for National Reconstruction [Mouvement de la Reconstruction Nationale, JMRN] has come out in favor of the electoral process. Mondestin did not hold back his support for holding elections throughout Haiti [as heard]. In answer to questions from [reporter] Kenol Dorvil, the former senator said that by deciding to participate in the elections, he was opting for democracy. Mondestin says he understand the frustration of a number of political leaders over the organization of the elections. However, explained Mondestin, the JMRN will participate, with a view to supporting democracy."

The radio points out that a source close to the family of CEP Secretary General Marie-Laurence Jocelyn Lassegue contacted by Signal FM on 23 July confided that Lassegue will be returning to Haiti "very soon." "Mrs. Lassegue, who suffers from a heart condition involving high blood pressure, went to Belgium for treatment. According to our source, the CEP secretary general is well and is planning to return to Haiti very soon. During a telephone conversation with her family last week, Mrs. Lassegue said she is planning to return to Haiti. Shortly after she left the country, there were reports to the effect that the CEP secretary general had left Haiti because of threats against her made before the first round of elections was held on 25 June. This same source concluded by saying that Marie-Laurence Jocelyn Lassegue, the date of whose return to Haiti has not yet been confirmed, will resume her activities as soon as she arrives."

Protestants Ask Voodoo Cults for Explanations

95CA9196 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 24 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The secretariat of the Protestant Federation of Haiti is asking voodoo priests to give the general public an explantion regarding their theological and social thought and their ties with certain practices including sorcery, magic, and the phenomenon of zom-

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bies, with a view to establishing dialogue with other sectors.

In a press release dated 20 July, the Protestant Federation's secretariat says it followed with interest the recent meeting of the Haitian chief of state with the representatives of Haiti's voodoo cults. The secretariat also noted the latter's desire to seek dialogue with other sectors of national life. The federation thinks that before any initiatives in that direction take place, the voodoo cults should provide answers to the above questions. The federation says this meeting comes at a moment at which, in a number of countries, the representatives of large religious communities — Christians, Jews, Muslims, and others — are holding consultations to find solutions to specific problems in the spheres of democracy, human rights, and health. The Protestant Federation of Haiti cautions against moving too fast on this.

The federation asks voodoo promoters to shed light on their theological and social thought, and on the other matters above, which divide Haitian society.

ONA Employees Question Transfer of Director

95CA9197 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 24 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] ONA [National Insurance Office] employees are asking for an explanation regarding the transfer of their director general (Oliva Franklin)? to the Ministry of Social Affairs.

During a news conference on 22 July, employees said that during his tenure, (Oliva Franklin)? contributed to the proper functioning of ONA. The employees say they do not know how to interpret this decision on the part of Haitian Government authorities against the former director.

[Begin unidentified man recording in Creole] The ONA employees are not happy about the transfer. Why? Because we are taking into account the valid work the director general was doing, such as restructuring the institution and putting everything in order. Where things were in disorder, he took things in hand and set things in order. He was working in such a way that ONA funds began increasing. This shows no common sense at all, and is not at all moral, for such a decree to be issued transfering our director somewhere else. [end recording]

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Zedillo Assures EU of Economic Recovery

PA2507033395 Mexico City Radio Red Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jul 95

[Report by Victor Manuel Subersa from the presidential residence; from the "Night Monitor" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] We have begun to observe clear signs of recovery in key economic sectors, President Ernesto Zedillo said before the delegates of the European Union's Chambers of Commerce and Industries.

In official Communique 376, it was reported that Zedillo said that there are signs indicating that Mexico's economy will recover by 1996. Zedillo said that despite the peso's devaluation, the country did not fall into an uncontrollable inflation spiral. He said that, thanks to the results of the economic adjustment plan, inflation will continue to decrease. After reviewing the country's economic situation, he said that Mexico intends to establish a long- term commercial association agreement with the European Union, an agreement that separates commercial matters from political matters. Zedillo said that, regardless of whether or not this agreement is reached, Mexico is determined to carry out negotiations for bilateral promotional, protection, and investment agreements with various European countries. These types of agreements have already been established with Spain and Switzerland and are about to be signed with the Netherlands and France. Agreements are pending to be signed with Italy and Great Britain.

In the meeting, Hector Tello Garcia, president of the Council of Mexican Chambers of Commerce and Industry, underlined the measures adopted by the government and some business sectors to stimulate the country's commercial diversification. The meeting was attended by Jacques De Combe, head of the European Union delegation in Mexico, and Herminio Blanco, Mexican secretary for commerce and industrial development. The meeting occurred behind closed doors at Los Pinos official residence this morning.

Government, EZLN Opens 5th Round of Chiapas Talks

PA2407184395 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1729 GMT 24 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] San Andres Larrainzar, 24 Jul (NOTIMEX) — The Mexican Government and the Zapatist National Liberation Army (EZLN) today opened a fifth round of negotiations to search for a political solution to the conflict in the southeastern state of Chiapas. The two sides in the conflict hope to achieve agreements at this meeting on issues related to procedural rules and the security corridors along which some of the EZLN forces will be redeployed.

Bank Acquires Treasury Bonds Worth $949.8 Million

PA2507015295 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2354 GMT 24 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Mexico City, 24 Jul (NOTIMEX) — The Bank of Mexico [Banxico] announced today it acquired Federal Treasury Bonds (Tesobonos) worth $949.8 million and $1.43 billion in securities that will expire on 27 July.

Banxico underscored that this is the result of its 18 July 1995 offer to purchase Tesobonos.

The bank explained that the total amount of Tesobonos in the hands of the public decreased to $6.923 billion with this transaction.

Roundup of Mexican Economic Developments

PA2407223795

[FBIS Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on economic developments in Mexico monitored through 24 July.

According to a 17 July, Mexico City-datelined report, the National Finance Bank (Nafin) has issued three-year bonds valued at 250 million German marks in the German market, which will have a 10 percent annual rate. Besides Germany, the bonds were also placed in France and Switzerland. (Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2235 GMT 17 Jul 95)

The Mexican Association of Automobile Industry reported that the production of the automobile industry during the first semester of 1995 presented a 20-percent drop compared to the same period in 1994. The report added that the production for the domestic market dropped by 66 percent, while an increase of 26 percent was observed in the export production. (Mexico City Radio Red Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jul 95)

Economic experts have predicted that by the end of 1995, the agricultural sector will experience a decline of 4.3 percent of the gross domestic product. According to the same report, there will be a 2.5-percent decline in the mining industry, a 4.0-percent decline in the manufacturing sector, and a 10.7-percent decline in the construction sector, which is expected to register the worst decline by the end of 1995. (Mexico City Radio Red Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jul 95)

A 21 July, Mexico City-datelined item reported that Francisco Labastida Ochoa, secretary of agriculture and hydraulic resources, said on 21 July that thus far,

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the 1995 agricultural trade balance has registered a surplus of $606 million. Exports of agricultural products increased by more than 60 percent, prompting positive results in the country's trade balance. (Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0124 GMT 21 Jul 95)

According to a 21 July, Mexico City-datelined report, Mexican Petroleum (Pemex) had a favorable balance of $3.576 billion during the first semester of 1995, surpassing all expectations. The report added that during this period, Pemex received revenues surpassing its budget by $700 million. Total revenues surpassed those collected during the same period last year by $672 million. (Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1813 GMT 21 Jul 95)

According to a 24 July Mexico City-datelined item, the Secretariat of Tourism reported on 24 July that the number of tourists in Mexico increased by 5.2 percent during the first quarter of 1995, compared to the same period in 1994. The report added that nevertheless, the revenues obtained from tourism dropped 9.1 percent. (Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1756 GMT 24 Jul 95)

A 23 July, Mexico City-datelined item says that according to an analysis conducted by the Bancomer Group, the maquiladora (assembly plant sector) industry, concentrated mainly along the northern border, is among the economy's most dynamic sectors. This industry helped offset adjustment costs in the region during the crisis because its production is destined for foreign markets and as competitiveness rises, labor costs trigger its expansion. The maquila sector is made up of approximately 2,000 companies spread mainly in the border states of Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon, Coahuila, Chihuahua, Sonora and Baja California. The maquilas generate approximately 611,000 jobs in these states, which represents approximately 20 percent of jobs in the Mexican manufacturing sector. Although the Mexican economy experienced a sharp reduction in jobs nationwide in the first months of 1995, the maquila sector generated nearly an additional 54,000 jobs. (Madrid EFE in Spanish 1544 GMT 23 Jul 95)

According to an 18 July, Mexico City-datelined report, crude production in Mexico reached an average of 2.675 million barrels a day during the first half of 1995, in keeping with plans to meet domestic and foreign demand for this period. Mexican Petroleum, Pemex, stressed that in the first half of 1995, it extracted 1.456 million barrels of light and intermediate crude a day and 1.219 million of heavy crude from offshore and onshore fields. Pemex disclosed that Campeche remains Mexico's premier producing region as its offshore fields yielded 75.2 percent of the total production or 2.012 million barrels a day. During this period, Pemex produced, from its offshore and onshore fields, a daily volume of 3.66 billion cubic feet of natural gas. (Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0102 GMT 19 Jul 95)

An 18 July, Mexico City-datelined item cites the Bank of Mexico, Banxico, reporting that the interest rates of Treasury Certificates, Cetes, registered today, in their weekly sale, drops in all of their issues. Banxico disclosed the following changes: the 28-day Cetes dropped 2.27 percentage points compared to the previous week; the 91-day Cetes dropped 2.1 points; the 182-day Cetes dropped 3.04 points. This week, Banxico auctioned 364-day Cetes, which were assigned a yield of 36.72 percent. This yield represents a drop of 13.32 points compared to the latest auction held on 7 March. (Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0143 GMT 19 Jul 95)

According to an 18 July, Mexico City-datelined report, the Monotype Company of Mexico was established as a Mexico-Taiwan joint venture to manufacture in-line skates with a direct investment and working capital of $3.4 million. In a press communique, the National Foreign Trade Bank explains that the project, which will generate more than 300 direct jobs, was promoted by its Commercial Attache Office in Taiwan. (Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2139 GMT 18 Jul 95)

According to an 18 July, Mexico City-datelined item, the Mexican company Chihuahua Cements increased its sales and real profits by 54 percent during the first half of 1995 compared to the same period in 1994. In its biannual report, the company pointed out that from January to June 1995, it realized net sales for $56.8 million as a result of the larger volume placed by its subsidiary in the United States. Chihuahua Cements disclosed that in this period, it also increased the group's total assets by 40 percent. The document indicated that for this period, revenues amounted to $10.5 million, which constitutes a 54-percent increase over the same period in 1994. (Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2039 GMT 18 Jul 95)

Clean Votes Stressed Over Legislation

95CA0316A Mexico City REFORMA in Spanish 8 Jul 95 p 9A

[Commentary by Jaime Sanchez Susarrey, University of Guadalajara research professor: "National Priorities"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A feeling had existed for months that the country lacked effective leadership. Political parties and public opinion shared the perception. Esteban Moctezuma's resignation from the Interior Secretariat therefore came as no surprise. The mystery was rather what took him so long!

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Why did Ernesto Zedillo fail to react sooner? Perhaps out of a fear of change or the conviction that he could not do without his young aide. Only he knows the real reasons, but one has to admit that, however late it came, the dismissal had a positive effect, sweeping through the political atmosphere like a breath of fresh air.

Moctezuma's failure can be explained by the lack of a role, his inexperience and youth. The post was too big for him from the very beginning. Nor was it exclusively a problem of form, but of content also. The strategic line he drew for the Interior Secretariat was incorrect. This is the only explanation for the errors he committed.

This is a very important fact for the new secretary of interior. The current political situation demands far more than a change of man and style; rather, it requires a clear strategy with precise objectives. That is why, even if Emilio Chuayffet entered Bucareli putting his right foot first, his experience and political talent will not be enough to enable him to perform his new duties if he does not thoroughly revise the political line followed by his predecessor.

In his speech before the full Cabinet, the new secretary of interior posed two fundamental questions. The first was loyalty to the president. Responding to those who identify him as a member of the Atlacomulco group, Chuayffet denied representing any personal or group interests.

The second was his insistence on the need for change and an appeal to political parties to return to the bargaining table. Within that context, he named Christlieb, Lombardo Toledano, and Reyes Heroles, then added: "We cannot become hostages to the circumstances and fall into the vicious circle of saying that there can be no dialogue if we do not solve the other conflicts first."

The formula of the vicious circle is quite ingenious, but things are not that simple. Despite the good will unquestionably motivating all sides, a healthy number of objective difficulties do exist that will continue to obstruct any national dialogue between the government and the leading political parties.

Precisely what are those difficulties? For starters, the precedent set by Esteban Moctezuma. Without the commitment that there would be a solution to the problem of the PRD [Party of the Democratic Revolution] in Tabasco, Munoz Ledo would never have signed the Los Pinos Pact. If he had, the radical wing of neo-Cardenism would have lynched him. However, from then on, the national agenda was directly linked to local problems.

To try to break the link between national and local issues will be far more difficult now. Furthermore, the dialogue was immediately complicated by matters of a special nature: first of all, by the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] revolt in Tabasco on 18 January; next by the Army's attack on Chiapas on 9 February; and finally, by the Yucatan elections.

Nor is it irrational that this should be so. For the time being, the opposition parties' political priorities do not lie in federal election reform, but in local elections already held (Tabasco, Jalisco, Guanajuato, Yucatan) and to be held in Baja California and Michoacan.

On the national level, PAN [National Action Party], the PRD, PRI, and national government itself know that the distance already traveled is far greater than the distance left to go. With all its inadequacies, the legislation now on the books is the fruit of three very important reforms (1989, 1993, and 1994). With respect to pending matters, one must recognize that points of agreement outnumber points of disagreement.

Furthermore, who is pressed for time? We must not lose sight of the fact that the next federal elections will be held in two years. Between now and then, not one, but several election reforms could be drafted. That is why discussions can be postponed or suspended without endangering the future of negotiations.

Within that context, the only party that is (or was) in a hurry to have the reform concluded was the government itself, and in particular, the former head of the Interior Secretariat because he was the direct author of the initiative. Indeed, no one is unaware that passing a reform with a consensus of all political forces will be a victory for the current administration.

But that is where all the problems begin! On the one hand, as I already pointed out, the opposition parties' priorities are to have local elections be transparent and fair. On the other, the Federal Government is confronted with a series of local groups and interests that either refuse to yield easily, or cannot.

Within such a context, how can we prevent local postelection conflicts from having a negative impact on national negotiations? The answer is simple: Once a postelection conflict occurs, there is no way to prevent it from having a negative effect on the national board. That is what happened in Tabasco and Yucatan, and it could happen again.

For the future of negotiations between PAN, the PRD, and the nation's government, what is happening in Baja California and Michoacan is far more important than any agreements on federal legislation that can be reached immediately. However far we might go on the second point, neither PAN nor the PRD will agree to go on negotiating if they are (or feel) trampled upon in local elections.

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Whence the central priority of the Interior Secretariat: to function as a mediator and apply pressure to the most conservative forces of the system so that local elections are toned down wisely and satisfy the opposition's just demands with respect to a fair contest.

The second priority is to clear up local conflicts that have already erupted in Tabasco, Yucatan and Chiapas. In Tabasco, it is urgent to examine evidence presented concerning campaign spending and, if irregularities have occurred, to act accordingly. In Yucatan, it is indispensable to find means of mediation in order to resolve the tension generated.

Finally, with respect to the EZLN [Zapatist Army of National Liberation], the nation's government faces a dilemma: either continue the negotiations at a pace set by the Zapatists or apply pressure in order to achieve substantive progress. The situation is less urgent now than it was at the beginning of the year, but if it chooses the second option, the government must be willing to run new risks.

Only when the Interior Secretariat completes its task in the local sphere will it be able to resume the national dialogue with consistency. That is the real agenda now imposed by the circumstances. If one wants to reach the nation's capital, one has to start out from Tabasco, Yucatan, Chiapas, Baja California and Michoacan. First things first.

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Nicaragua

Leal on U.S. Attitude, Elections, Migration Issues

PA2407235595 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Jul 95

[From the "Weekly News Roundup" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Ernesto Leal has attended the Inter-American forum in Washington. There, he said he was satisfied with the open-mindedness of U.S. senators and congressmen and the U.S. Government regarding the democratic progress of the government of Violeta Barrios de Chamorro. The foreign minister also discussed other topics, such as the elections and Nicaraguan immigrants. Let us see:

[Begin recording] [Leal] I think that on this occasion, the U.S. Government, Senate, Congress, and decision-makers have been able to truly understand the complex nature of this undertaking. In addition, I noticed a great deal of open-mindedness and positive attitudes toward Nicaragua regarding political and economic progress. We are very satisfied with the trip. I would say that the topic of the amendment that may suspend aid to Nicaragua on 28 July...[pauses] we think we will be able to settle that issue and have no problems.

[Unidentified reporter] The electoral campaign has started for the 1996 elections. Will this hamper the process of institutional reforms, constitutional amendments? Do you think that, on the contrary, (?it may grow) because there will be a debate of ideas?

[Leal] The latter, I think. It will enhance democracy in Nicaragua. We must take into consideration, as we have said recently, that in the past 100 years, our people have not known democracy, and democracy is a way of life. We are going to have an electoral system that will be different, even from the one in the 1990's. The voting in 1990 was done in silence by the people. They voted against a system. Now, the people will express themselves in favor of one system, namely, the democratic system. I think the fact that we will begin an electoral period will in fact strengthen democracy in Nicaragua.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] in favor of renewing visas for Nicaraguans living in the United States?

[Leal] Of course, that is a topic of concern for us. The president always discussed this topic with former President Bush and has discussed it with President Clinton. In this respect, we have been told that the situation of Nicaraguans will be reviewed on a case by case basis. The issue is that Nicaragua lacks the infrastructure necessary to receive en massse so many Nicaraguans who had to leave during a decade of dictatorship and communism in our country. Quickly...

[Reporter interrupting] How many Nicaraguans do you think are living in the United States?

[Leal] A little over 300,000. [end recording]

Daniel Ortega Speech on FSLN Anniversary

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[Speech by Daniel Ortega, secretary general of the Nicaraguan Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN, at the commemoration of the 16th anniversary of the FSLN revolutionary victory at the Plaza of the Revolution in Managua — live relay]

[FBIS Translated Text] Nicaraguan brothers, brothers from the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], guests from the 5th Meeting of the People of Latin America and the Caribbean: Today we are commemorating this 16th anniversary of the victory of the revolution. We have also held the 5th meeting of the people in our country. We have gathered here full of patriotism, zeal, and love for Nicaragua, we who want Nicaragua to live in peace and stability.

We Sandinists love peace and stability. This is why we are against injustice in the world, where powerful countries oppress the countries of the Third World, the developing countries. We are against injustices committed against brotherly people who continue enduring a blockade, like the Cuban people, a brother nation to whom we express all our solidarity. That nation must be liberated from the unjust blockade imposed by the U.S. Government.

We also state our solidarity with the people of Libya and the people of Iraq, people who are also enduring blockades, people who are suffering, and with people throughout the world who are oppressed and who have found themselves forced to struggle in various forms — on the streets, at the polls, and eventually are forced to struggle with weapons, like our Zapatist brothers in Mexico who rose against neoliberalism, against inequality, against oppression. [applause]

Neoliberal policies work against the hopes of the people and try to demoralize the people. Can the people be demoralized in the face of neoliberalism? Can the people be demobilized in the face of neoliberalism? [crowd chants: "No"] Can the people surrender in the face of neoliberalism? [crowd shouts: "No"]

The people are struggling and resisting, just like the Nicaraguan people have been doing for the past five years, resisting neoliberal policies that have meant unemployment, hunger, lack of health, lack of education, and the forsaking of the young, the women, and the children of our country.

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The people resist; the people struggle. The Nicaraguan people are an example of resistance and struggle. A people subjected to war, aggression, and now neoliberal policies which have bled us so much. It is our responsibility to ourselves to celebrate this 16th anniversary, we could say, on the eve of the 1996 elections.

What can we do? What must we do so that the victory achieved by the Nicaraguan people 16 years ago will not be lost in 1996? What must we, above all, Sandinists, do? Divide ourselves? [crowd shouts: "No!"] Must each one go his own way to form his own party? [crowd shouts: "No!"] Detract? [crowd shouts: "No!"] Weaken? [crowd shouts: "No!"] Or must we contribute? [crowd shouts: "Yes!"] Or, do we have to unite [crowd shouts: "Yes!"] to reach new victories.

For this reason it is essential that we Sandinists raise the flag of unity and tell all our brothers, who have in one way or another distanced themselves from us, that in the FSLN there are no barriers, obstacles, or doors, in an FSLN which is completely open to all Nicaraguans who want to join its ranks, who want to work with the FSLN in the neighborhoods, Indian territories, and hamlets. This has to be our message of unity.

In order to gain more conscientious votes to win the 1996 elections that message of unity has to extend beyond the FSLN. We have to go beyond the FSLN. We have to believe, once and for all, that human beings are all brothers. There is no reason to see ourselves as adversaries or enemies. Those who seek to destroy and kill the hopes of the people want us to see each other as adversaries, as enemies — above all the people, the workers, and the peasants.

Then we must go farther in our unity. Toward whom? Toward all the poor people in the country. Because the FSLN is the front of the workers, the peasants, the workers, the hungry, the unemployed, the barefoot, the humble, in the country. [cheers]

The majority of the people are unemployed, miserable, and experiencing great difficulties. We must reach out further. We must reach out for the young people — from the thousands of young people who are gathered today in this plaza. We have to reach out for the thousands of young people who are facing serious difficulties in their homes, who don't have enough to eat, or the opportunity to study. Every day we hear the news that youngsters were not able to pass their exams because they did not have the money to pay their high school or university tuition.

Then, we must work really hard so that young Nicaraguans, without any political or ideological distinction, understand and become aware that they are an essential force for change in Nicaragua in 1996 with the FSLN flag in the lead. [applause]

We have to make young people understand, to persuade them, both men and women, of the importance for them to make a commitment so that Nicaragua can really change. There cannot be change in Nicaragua without the participation of its young people. If a 19 of July occurred in Nicaragua, it is because the young people participated. If we win the election in 1996, it will be because the young people will participate.

In the same way, we must approach, with greater firmness and belligerence and a greater sense of respect for their rights, all Nicaraguan women without any distinctions. Because a revolution without women is not a revolution. A democracy without women is not a democracy.

Here we can struggle for democracy, justice, stability, and peace only with the participation of women. We must seek ways of communicating with women in the territories, in the districts. We must do it by going beyond the political structures of the FSLN. This is most important to organize the young people who are not working with the FSLN or with the Sandinist youth, to establish links with women who are not working in an organized way with women's groups or with political structures of the front. We must go, look for them, and find them in the territories, at work centers, at their homes, in the countryside, the villages. We have to go to them like the apostles did and knock on doors even if some are slammed on our faces, until we make them realize that their future, the future of the women, of the young, is at the side of the FSLN. [applause]

We have to appeal to popular sectors that are not Sandinists, to the popular sectors that sided with the counterrevolutionaries, with the Nicaraguan resistance, to the peasants who were at the side of the Nicaraguan resistance, so that they too may join this big effort, because they too are the reason for the existence of the FSLN, because they are peasants and they are being oppressed and exploited.

We have to work for unity with them, for a rapprochement with them, in all territories, in all neighborhoods where there are people who sided with the Nicaraguan resistance.

We must recover the votes of people who sympathized with the Sandinist Front in the 1990's but who, because of the circumstances of the war, of the U.S. attitude, found themselves forced to vote for the National Opposition Union [UNO].

We must go to them and tell them: Things are worse now and if we want Nicaragua to improve, if we want

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stability, if we want peace, we must vote for the FSLN in 1996.

This will not be enough. We must appeal to the middle class, to the technicians, the professionals, businessmen, producers, to Nicaraguans who have resources and are capitalists, who still stayed in our country and are prepared to really work for Nicaragua, and we must tell them: Let's unite forces to save Nicaragua, to make Nicaragua go forward. If we fight and confront each other everyday, we will never be able to push Nicaraguan forward.

The majority of the Nicaraguans want peace and stability, and we must listen to this demand, to this wish of the majority of Nicaraguans and set aside speeches about revenge, set aside aggressive and confrontational discourse.

We too must change our discourse and hoist the discourse of brotherhood, of fraternity, of love, because this is the discourse of the revolution. This must be our message. We must invite all Nicaraguans of good will to unite their efforts so the country may have stability.

I ask all Nicaraguans, not only those in this plaza, but also those listening to us on their radio or watching us on television; I ask all Nicaraguans, regardless of their political or ideological positions, of who they plan to vote for, of who they like and who they dislike; I ask them all: Do we Nicaraguans really want peace and stability or don't we? Surely the majority will say they want peace and stability.

I also ask you, Nicaraguan brothers: Are peace and stability possible if Somozist liberalism returns in 1996? Would the people accept a return of the Somozist liberalism that now hides behind the Constitutionalist Liberal Party acronym? Would the people accept this return to Somozism? Would the people accept the Somozists acting against their interests, sowing terror, organizing paramilitary groups, and the return of torture, persecution, death?

The truth is: What can we expect from a gang of Somozists who have their den in the Managua mayorship? Look at what they first did after being sworn in to the Managua mayorship, at the first action of the Somozist who is mayor of Managua. His first action was not a message of fraternity and respect for the most elemental cultural rights of the Nicaraguan people. What did this gentleman do? He did not accept the mural paintings that prestigious national painters had painted on our country's parks. He did not accept that. This is Somozism. He did not accept the paintings of painters who in his opinion do not deliver a Somozist message.

What was his first work? It was not the construction of housing for the people of Managua; it was not to deliver light and water to the people of Managua. His first action was to order the erasing, the elimination, of the murals of Nicaraguan painters.

Can this gentleman become a sign or a hope of stability for the Nicaraguans? He did not tolerate murals, how is he going to tolerate the vigor of a people who want jobs, justice, peace, and education?

We have an adversary against whom we must struggle with dedication. We cannot underestimate our adversary. We are not afraid of him, this is true, but we cannot underestimate him.

Let's remember we are facing an adversary who has already governed in Nicaragua, at other times. The liberals have governed Nicaragua. Liberals have governed Nicaragua since the last century. The last liberal government was that of Somoza, and what good did it do? What did Somozism — a liberal government — leave for us?

We cannot underestimate this political force, because it was here before the FSLN, before Sandino. This tells us we must work hard.

We must all work hard to win those elections. The people should not err in 1996 by marking the wrong square in their ballot and giving the vote to a party that will not win for the people. We must work hard so the people may realize, so Nicaraguan society as a whole may realize, that the FSLN is the only political force in the country that can guarantee stability and a definite solution to a series of problems.

I want you to pay attention to the following, I want you to pay attention to the following....[pauses] This is not moonshine, you know. [laughter, shouts heard in the background] I want you to pay attention to the following: It is very important that we all clearly realize the circumstances surrounding the next elections are entirely different from the ones that prevailed in 1990.

In other words, we must clearly explain this to the population because — what do our adversaries say? If the FSLN wins the war returns. If the FSLN wins the blockade returns. If the FSLN wins the dispute with the Yankees returns. Therefore, we must clearly explain the following to the people: Thanks to the struggle waged by the Nicaraguan people, who resisted the aggression and the war imposed on us by Reagan, the United States had to accept the FSLN's reality. This is not a favor they are doing us, it is a right the Nicaraguan people have earned with blood and fire, defending their sovereignty, dignity, and self-determination. [shouts, applause]

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Reagan wanted to destroy us with the war. Then Bush became president. When the 1990 elections were held, Bush intervened in the elections and told the Nicaraguan people: You must vote for the UNO. If you do not vote for the UNO we will continue to fight against the FSLN. Of course, there was a war, there was mandatory military service. That explains why many Sandinist votes were given to the UNO.

Therefore, under the new circumstances, the U.S. Government has had to admit this new reality. What does the U.S. Government say now? The U.S. Government says: Well, we do not support a given party, a given candidate. We will recognize the electoral results. Very well, that is a much more decent attitude from the United States. That is an attitude we can term as respectful — if they truly do it and if they do not secretly support a given political force.

Anyway, this clearly shows the conflict we had in the 1980s with Reagan has been transcended and if the FSLN wins — and the FSLN will win in 1996 — the United States will recognize the FSLN Government. [applause, shouts] This also means there will be no war, there will be no military service, because we have also pledged our word, and we have sworn it in this square, that there will never again be mandatory military service in our homeland. [applause, shouts]

Moreover, it is unlikely that now all parties will join as they did in 1990 to give us a run for our money. All of them were against the FSLN, but not now! Now, the elections will have a more, more, ... [pauses] say, pluralistic participation, taking a less polarized form. Different forces will participate in the elections in the first round, and the way they have been organized, there will two rounds. There does not necessarily have to be run-off elections.

We have to work in earnest to win in the first round. That is the challenge we face. We must work in earnest to win in the first round, which means garnering a minimum of 900,000 votes of the entire population of qualified voters. We must raise the awareness of the people so there is no absenteeism. We must explain to Nicaraguans they have the responsibility to vote, and that nobody should abstain, because by abstaining they are not helping solve the country's problems. Therefore, we must make a very big effort. We have 335,000 registered Sandinists in Nicaragua, but we must raise the number of voters above the 900,000 mark, based on the premise that everybody votes.

Of course, only in the case that this does not happen, if the results exceed [as heard] 45 percent in the first round that means we have to have a run-off. What will prevail then will be a policy of alliances. Therefore, that is the outlook we have for the elections, for the 1996 elections. I think, however, that it is important that you here listen very clearly so you can later repeat it — and those who are listening to us on the radio and television, who know that we keep our word — what I will tell you about voters who live abroad, especially now. The fact is that there is no truth to the line that all the people in Miami will vote against the FSLN and in favor of those who oppose the FSLN.

Many people have left the country because of the problem of unemployment. Many professionals have left the country. We are certain there are many people in U.S. cities, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Miami, New Orleans, as well as in Central American and European countries ready to vote for the FSLN! [crowd cheers]

We would like everyone [one-minute break in reception] ... the votes of people living abroad, because of technical problems that exist, the costs that are entailed in ensuring the honesty of the elections. Not even Costa Rica, which has the most practice on electoral matters, allows this. But then, we are in favor of letting everyone cast his ballot. We are against absenteeism. We are in favor of allowing Nicaraguans living abroad vote. Allowing citizens living abroad to vote will depend, will depend, on conditions, the material possibilities of the country.

It is also very important to make all Nicaraguans understand this. I am referring especially to the 300,000 Nicaraguans whom the revolution gave, regardless of political and ideological distinctions, properties in the countryside and cities. The FSLN is the sole political force that can give a final solution to this problem. Meanwhile, no matter how many laws are approved in the National Assembly, and with our backing, this will not resolve the problem of ownership; the laws will not resolve it, because, unfortunately, they are being ignored every day!

Look, the National Assembly banned evictions. The Assembly banned it through a law or decree. What is happening? Is that law complied with or not? [crowd shouts: "No!"] Are people evicted or not? [crowd shouts: "Yes!"]

They are evicted, and why? Because the government has no political commitment to respect those laws. Therefore, the sole government that can truly guarantee respect for the laws and protect the properties of over 300,000 families who received properties is the FSLN. [applause] It is equally important to make the following understood. This message is addressed to Nicaraguans who had their properties confiscated and have not been compensated, although they deserve it. To those Nicaraguans who are demanding the return of some

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properties, we also say the FSLN has the political commitment to pay compensation to those who deserve compensation. We must pay compensation to them, namely, small-, medium-, and large-scale farmers who had their properties expropriated.

To be sure, not included are Somozists, because they had their properties confiscated, and those people cannot receive compensation. Here, here, we have to say that people who had their properties confiscated will remain that way. For that reason, we have to strive to make it understood that the sole political force that is able to give a definite solution is the FSLN. That is the truth. Many meetings were held, many meetings have been held, on the topic of ownership. That is very important. The bills are being submitted at the National Assembly, and we support them. Unfortunately, no matter how good the laws are, they are not enforced when the government lacks commitment.

The sole government that can enforce those laws in favor of those who received properties and those who had their properties confiscated and need to be compensated is the FSLN.

Therefore, in order to resolve the ownership problem, something that constitutes the basis for stability in the country and to make it possible for foreign investors to arrive, what we need here, and with total frankness I am telling all Nicaraguans of different ideologies, what we need is an FSLN government that at any rate would be a government of national unity! [applause] When we, Sandinists, are talking of governing, we are not talking about governing alone, but with all those who are ready to push Nicaragua forward, without making political or ideological distinctions with anyone.

We must similarly make farmers, small- and medium-scale peasants, understand that with a FSLN government, the first thing they will have is the certainty of loans for productive activities, so that they can produce beans and rice, so Nicaraguans can have the certainty they will have their rice meals and corn beverages. No farmer will ever again have his property confiscated by a bank, no farmer will lose his property over a debt, no family will lose his house over a debt. An FSLN government alone can guarantee that! [applause]

Of course, we also have to talk of health and education for all the people. We must reconstruct education because it has gone under.

We must plant schools throughout the country; we must fill the most far-away mountainous areas with schools, and we must also fill them with health centers. Our adversaries might wonder: And where will you find the money? Will you print money again? Will inflation return?

No, we are not for inflation; we will not use the printer irresponsibly, nor will inflation return.

Well, but where will the funds come from, given that foreign funds are limited? Where will the funds come from? The funds will come from the Nicaraguan people, who have a great moral force and who have a great spirit of solidarity.

No budget or capital would have been enough to finance the great literacy crusade that we launched at the beginning of the revolution. If it had involved a budget could we have carried out a literacy crusade? How did we implement it? With youthful hearts, youthful consciousness, youthful love, and that is why it was possible to carry out a literacy crusade.

We have capital that is much more powerful than IMF measures; we have capital that is much larger than World Bank measures; we have capital that is much stronger than the Somozist parties that seek to reenthrone themselves in Nicaragua; we have moral capital, we have ethical capital; we have spiritual capital; we have a spirit of solidarity, justice, and love that the Sandinists have practiced, are practicing, and will continue to practice.

We want to refer to the bombs that have exploded at churches; bombs have exploded in churches in Managua, Leon, Masaya Department, and Carazo, and it happens that — and this is a suspicious and planned attitude — the newspapers of our adversaries have accused the FSLN even before the bombs had finished exploding.

We see here an evil mentality promoting this type of criminal act. Why? To muddy the FSLN's image. They want to destroy our image, our moral authority through any means, but they have failed, and they are now resorting to these acts of terrorism. Thus, with absolute responsibility, we want to condemn this here. We urge the Nicaraguan people to report any suspicious movements near churches, to supply any information in this regard. And above all, we want authorities of the Police and the Government Ministry to identify who are the ones who are using their sick and evil mentality to promote bomb plantings at churches.

They are the same ones who want to hurt the FSLN, because they feel no respect or love for the Nicaraguan people.

We met, I personally met with Cardinal Obando y Bravo during the crisis between the government and the National Assembly over the reform issue. I told the

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cardinal that it was important for him to participate in the dialogue, and the truth is that Cardinal Obando y Bravo has played an active role in this struggle, in this calvary of the Nicaraguan people.

Let us recall that when seven Sandinist companeros, including myself, were in prison in 1974, when the home of Chema [Jose Maria] Castillo was seized, we had already spent seven years and one month in prison. Chema Castillo's home was seized. The companeros of the Juan Jose Quesada Commando Unit demanded our release, and they asked Cardinal Obando y Bravo to mediate our freedom before Somoza.

Later I traveled with Cardinal Obando to Havana. He accompanied us to Cuba because we were taken there. We knew each other because we were born in the same town, in the town of liberty, Chontales. Later, when the peace process of Esquipulas started, we sought, I personally sought Cardinal Obando y Bravo to head the mediating commission in the dialogue with the counterrevolution that finally concluded with the Sapoa agreements.

That is how we have promoted dialogue and have supported the cardinal's participation in all these efforts. And I want to make this very clear, because our adversaries, our political enemies are stubbornly pointing out that we are annoyed because the cardinal mediated in the interinstitutional crisis, when it is the opposite, we are pleased that the cardinal mediated in that interinstitutional crisis, and we are pleased that that interinstitutional crisis was overcome, although not in the best way possible, because in the end, neither the government nor the deputies can cover up the major problems that are truly affecting the Nicaraguan people, namely, hunger, unemployment, health, education, and property, because all this had been hidden, hidden by the interinstitutional crisis.

We are drawing closer to the 1996 elections. It is possible that those elections will be held in October rather than November due to the two rounds. The FSLN will obviously field candidates in those elections; candidates for mayor, town councillor, and deputy. Where will those candidates come from? Will they be appointed from above or will they be elected by vote from below? Will the people elect them through their votes or will they be appointed from above?

It is clear that if we want candidates with possibilities of winning, they must be chosen in consultations with the population, in consultations not only with Sandinists and their followers, but with all those brothers who are willing to participate in such consultations. They should decide; the people should decide who the FSLN candidates will be in each area, municipality, department, and district.

In other words, we will do this democratically. We will not have a group of persons appointing candidates. The people will select their own candidates, and this will guarantee victory in 1996.

We are drawing closer to the 1996 elections, and we must become an example of maturity, an example of respect for the activities of other political forces, an example of respect for our country's laws. Why? To ensure that we truly become an example of stability, which is what the Nicaraguan people want.

More than 90 percent of the people want stability; they want stability accompanied by work — because we cannot talk about stability without jobs — they want stability accompanied by education and health. Stability with the property issue already settled.

Thus, I am not calling only on my Sandinist brothers throughout the country, but on other political forces to show respect, to not become manipulators, to not add fuel to the fire, to truly work with a genuine spirit of reconciliation among all Nicaraguans. I want the electoral process to bring us closer, to unite Nicaraguans instead of separating and dividing us, because only in this way will Nicaragua be saved. I want the electoral process to bring us closer and make us treat each other with respect.

The electoral process should not be discredited already as some political forces are doing by questioning the Supreme Electoral Council [CSE]. Regardless of the ideology and the way of thinking of CSE members, we say with full responsibility that the FSLN recognizes that all chosen members of the CSE are persons, men and women, with a very basic characteristic, that is, honesty. And with honesty, the CSE is guaranteed, and thus, the honesty of the elections is also guaranteed.

This is a day of joy when we cannot forget our brothers who fell while combating the Somoza dictatorship, our brothers who fell in the struggle to defend the revolution, and also our peasant brothers who fell while fighting with the resistence against the revolution. We want to remember all these Nicaraguan brothers and to honor them, because, after all and regardless of their positions, they gave their blood and lives, because they wanted a more free, just, democratic, and peaceful Nicaragua.

We want to honor our brothers who fell in the 1990's in one way or another. We want to remember Roberto Gonzalez, who was with us two or three years in this very square behind the microphones of Radio Sandino and died on the next day, 20 July. We want to remember

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(Daniel Castillo), the president of Team (Boer), who led it to the championship. He was also with us every 19 July. Castillo died in an accident on the way to leave relatives at the Costa Rican border, from where he was going to return immediately to accompany us to the retreat in Masaya.

Remember Juan, Roberto, Enrique, the thousands of brothers and sisters, comrades, Fanny....[pauses] Fanny Ulloa, Fanny Mafud de Ulloa, who recently died in Cuba! She was the widow of a hero who died defending Cuba's integrity and sovereignty — Carlos Ulloa. Remember the sister who wholeheartedly supported the Cuban people, Comrade Melania Vega, who has also died and who also accompanied us! Remember our brother, Carlos Nunez; remember Carlos Fonseca; remember German Pomares; remember Camilo; remember Roberto, Amalia, Casimiro Sotelo, Selim Shible — all those who began the struggle in the 1960s and who died along the way.

Remember the father of our people's anti-imperialist revolution, who said no to the Liberal and Conservative Party traitors and turncoats! Granted, he came from the Liberal Party's ranks, but he broke with liberalism and said: Nicaragua needs a new alternative. It was no longer the Liberals' red flag or the Conservatives' green flag. It was Sandino's red and black flag, which is the FSLN's red and black flag! [shouts, applause]

It is the only flag that has been raised and vigorously held up high in this land of heroic men and women, courageous young people, to defend the homeland's dignity and to defend Nicaragua's blue and white flag!

Remember, remember Frank and Enrique; and also the comrade police member, comrade police member.... [pauses] What is his name? Saul Alvarez and the comrade police member who also died recently. [shouts heard in the background] Yes, Enrique Montenegro, Frank, and a comrade police member. [unidentified man shouts: "Ezequiel Olivares!"] Right. Ezequiel Olivares. Comrade Olivares. Three Sandinist brothers. Two of them from Parrales and the other brother from the police. Sandinist brothers, yes. [indistinct shouts heard in the background]

Obviously, the retired Army and Government Ministry members! They will only have a future and hope with the FSLN! [shouts, applause]

Remember all the brothers who have offered their lives. Pay homage to the mothers of heroes and martyrs. Pay homage to the comrades crippled during the war. [indistinct shouts heard in the background] We have already mentioned him. Of course, we have mentioned Carlos. [indistinct shouts heard in the background] Ricardo Morales. We would have to spend all day long and all night long mentioning the names of our heroes and martyrs. [undentified man shouts: "Flavio Galo!"] Flavio Galo, too. He accompanied us every 19 July.

Therefore, what are we doing for this country's future? What are we doing for the Nicaraguan people's future? We are a flame of hope and, where there is hope, there is a will to struggle. There is a will to struggle despite the difficulties and problems, and we have to struggle, but we must also admit that other brothers are struggling in trenches that may seem more stable, because they have jobs, but are more difficult given their relation to the population and, above all, the conflicts.

I want to mention here our brothers in the police and our brothers in the Army. Although the Army is now called the National Army and although the police are now called the National Police, they have their roots in the Sandinist People's Army and the National Sandinist Police! [shouts, applause] The Army and police are comprised of former FSLN fighters and led by comrades who faced the Somoza dictatorship with their weapons. We know the difficulties they now face in case of a conflict — because the police and the Army are subordinated to the government, and the government sends them to repress — and the conflicts the policemen face when they stand before the workers, and the workers insult them. Logically, the policemen repress them.

Unfortunately, this involves disputes between Sandinist brothers — because the policeman who works for the police is as much a Sandinist as the Sandinist who protests on the other side! Therefore, this 19 July, it is fair to recognize our brothers in the police and our brothers in the Nicaraguan Army, and those who decided to leave the FSLN and comprise another party! We tell them that the FSLN's doors are open; that we will not repeat what some members of the movement which separated from the FSLN are saying nowadays. They say they will never get together with the FSLN.

I believe the message is not right because they were involved — in one way or another — in the people's struggle, the people's sacrifice. The right message should be of unity — even if it means they are not willing to fraternally and respectfully treat those who were their brothers and are still their brothers — because, if they reject the Sandinists as their brothers, then how can they see the rest of the Nicaraguan people as their brothers?

Therefore, we send them our message of fraternity, brotherhood, and unity — because only unity will make us strong and only unity will give us the capability to continue the struggle, day after day, to defend the

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people's interests and also put up a fight in the elections. Struggle is a subversive word for those who want to keep the people on their knees. Struggle is a word that those who want to oppress the people do not want to hear. However, struggle is the word that is in the minds of the Sandinists and the minds of all the people who rebel against injustice and oppression!

We must bear in mind and we must not forget that struggle is an inexhaustible source of new victories! Because we have been strugglers, because we are struggling, and because we will continue to struggle, we will continue to achieve new victories!

Long live the peasants' unity! [crowd shouts: "Long live!"] Long live the workers' unity! [crowd shouts: "Long live!"] Long live all the people's unity! [crowd shouts: "Long live!"] Long live the solidarity and love that internationalists have given and continue to give for Nicaragua! [crowd shouts: "Long live!"]

Sandino lives! [crowd shouts: "The struggle continues!"] Sandino lives! [crowd shouts: "The struggle continues!"] Sandino lives! [crowd shouts: "The struggle continues!"] Long live happiness! [crowd shouts: "Long live!"] Long live hope! [crowd shouts: "Without doubt!"] Long live fraternity! [indistinct shouts heard in the background] Long live love! [indistinct shouts heard in the background] Free homeland! [Crowd shouts: "Or death!"]

Panama

Taiwanese Minister Announces Agreement With Government

PA2507010595 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Jul 95 p 1

[Report by Jose Quintero de Leon]

[FBIS Translated Text] Taiwanese Foreign Minister Frederick Chien yesterday announced the signing of an agreement between his country and the Panamanian Government for the installation of an export processing zone in the reverted areas of Fort Davis.

Chien, who was in Panama for a four-day visit, said the processing zone will offer 20,000 jobs to Panamanians who will work in the manufacturing of light industry or high technology products, which Taiwan will attempt to place in Mercosur [Common Market of the South] and NAFTA member countries.

During a news conference accompanied by Foreign Minister Gabriel Lewis Galindo and Ricardo Duran, president of the Commission for the Promotion of Foreign Investments, Chien praised Panama's privileged position and predicted it will become the "Dragon of the Western Economy."

According to Chien, Panama has favorable conditions for foreign investments due to "its political and economic stability," which makes it potentially capable of becoming the "Tiger of the Eastern Pacific." He added that Panama is the Central American country offering the best conditions for investment not only because of its political and economic stability but also because it has enough housing facilities, tourist resorts, and educational centers for foreign investors.

Chien announced that an agreement was reached with the Panamanian Government for the installation of the industrial park at Fort Davis that will guarantee investments, assuring that there will be no labor problems or confiscations.

The agreement will provide approximately 100 hectares in the reverted areas for the industrial park. Six Taiwanese experts will tour the areas in August to design and implement plans for the plants that will operate in the export processing zone.

Chien said a Chinese-Panamanian corporation will be installed during the second half of August. He said that the corporation will organize seminars for future investors and that Panamanian businessmen will be invited to participate in the processing zone.

The agenda calls for touring the Fort Davis area in September in order to reserve the land where the industries will be installed. The Chinese-Panamanian corporation will be officially established at the end of this month and will be granted the right to use the area.

Panamanian and foreign industrialists wanting to participate must deliver 30 percent of the cost of the infrastructures. It has been estimated that the final construction contract could be signed in November.

Panamanian Foreign Minister Lewis Galindo intervened to explain that the corporation that will be created to administer reverted lands will have 50 percent of the landholding, which dispels fears that the Chinese will seize an asset that was reverted as a result of an intense struggle. [sentence as published]

Lewis Galindo said the corporation is part of an idea by President Perez Balladares to fight the unemployment the closing of the military bases will generate.

Foreign Minister Chien said he does not believe there will be problems trigged by nationalism with the Panamanians, because the Chinese businessmen have come to sign a cooperation agreement with the Panamanian Government, to invest in Panama, and to create jobs to promote our economy.

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Panama Joins Paris Agreement on Property Rights Protection

PA2407155095 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 24 Jul 95 p A-8

[Report by Arnulfo Barroso Watson]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Panama has joined the Paris Agreement for the Protection of Industrial Property. One of the agreement's provisions states that every product illegally bearing a brand name will be seized in the countries in which this document is in effect.

Last week, Richard Wilder, adviser for the U.S. Office of Brand Names and Patents, warned in this capital that the counterfeiting of computer programs, tweed pants, tennis shoes, Walt Disney products, and athletic shoes may be occurring in Panama.

Article 9 of the agreement authorizes the Attorney General's Offices of all member-nations to place an embargo on companies trading or selling counterfeit brand name merchandise. Such an embargo can be prompted by a request from an individual or corporation and should be based on the nation's domestic legislation. [passage omitted]

The agreement, recently ratified by the Legislative Assembly, also imposes sanctions on businessmen dealing in products with false documentation on merchandise origin or the producer's identity. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Vows To Crack Down

PA2407192295 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 24 Jul 95 p E-28

[Report by Carlos Vargas]

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Gabriel Lewis Galindo yesterday said Panama will adopt "vigorous measures" to combat piracy of intellectual property, which occurs mainly in the Colon Free Zone. Lewis Galindo revealed the Panamanian Government will start to seize counterfeit merchandise, because "we will prevent the use of our territory for this illegal activity."

"Panama cannot permit the use of our territory for this type of activity that discredits us," Lewis Galindo added. The foreign minister's statements stem from a request by U.S. businessmen that Panama adopt "stronger and more effective" measures to fight piracy, especially at the Colon Free Zone. The request was forwarded last week during a visit to Panama by Richard Wilder, adviser for the U.S. Office of Brand Names and Patents — an office investigating complaints about alleged counterfeiting of computer programs, textured blend trousers, Disney products, and athletic shoes.

Foreign Minister Lewis admitted that the piracy problem erodes Panama's international image among foreign businessmen and investors.

"We must definitely do something, because Panama cannot permit its territory to be used for this type of activity," the minister affirmed. Counterfeiting activities occur mainly with clothing, watches, and athletic shoes. There are no official figures on the amounts involved.

New Courts To Handle Copyright Violations

PA2407140695 Panama City MAGAZINE DOMINICAL EL SIGLO in Spanish 23 Jul 95 p 6

[Report by Cynthia Sanchez]

[FBIS Translated Text] Copyright Director General Eduardo Benitez Isturain has reported that new courts will be created to deal with piracy of intellectual property and Copyright Law violations. He added that this measure represents an attempt to correct this problem that hinders investments in the country.

Benitez said a bill drafted by the Planning Ministry will be presented to the Legislative Assembly early in the next legislative session as a national priority that could become an effective instrument to fight piracy. Piracy has increased in Panama. Despite the existence of the Copyright Law, violators think it will not be enforced because of a lack of political will, and, consequently, they can continue in their illegal business practices. "Nevertheless, the law will be enforced to the fullest, because this is why it was created for," he said.

He said piracy is a global problem and that every day there are more and more technological resources that facilitate the illegal reproduction of brand name goods. This can confuse consumers. For this reason, it is necessary to encourage them to be more demanding of the products they buy.

Annual losses to piracy in Latin America amount to an estimated $2 trillion. In Panama, the figures are alarming, particularly in the areas of computers, audiovisual works, and sound recordings, harming investments in the country.

Benitez said Panama must provide adequate protection for investors. Therefore, there is an urgent need to enforce the Intellectual Property Law, which will turn Panama into an ideal place for investments.

He said the first thing that must be done to enable the National Copyright Directorate to fulfill duty is to incorporate the Copyright Law into the administrative structure of the Education Ministry's new Basic Educational Law. He pointed out that the Directorate has already presented the regulation draft to Education Minister Pablo

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Thalassinos and that the draft is being reviewed and later will be approved through a decree. The decree will then be revised, and, once the last stage is completed, it will be sent to the president.

The directorate has been given several types of power to prevent copyright violations. Users will be investigated in addition to the people who conduct illegal business. Any individual caught will be reported to the judicial authorities. "The directorate can only apply administrative measures regarding licensing and contracts dealing with illegal activities. Authorities will impose prison terms of two to four years for illegally copying protected audiovisual works and videos, among others," Benitez said finally.

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Argentina

President Sends Condolences to Israel on Bus Bombing

PY2407231295 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1559 GMT 24 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Jul (TELAM) — President Carlos Menem today sent his condolences to the Israeli Government over an attack perpetrated in the town of Ramat Gan in which seven people were killed and 32 were injured.

Argentine Foreign Ministry sources told TELAM that, as soon as the attack was reported, Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella, who is paying an official visit to Israel, "telephoned President Menem."

The sources added that the president asked Foreign Minister Di Tella to convey to the Israeli authorities his condolences "in his name, in the name of the government, and in the name of the Argentine nation."

According to international news agencies, the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) has claimed responsibility for the attack against a bus in which seven people, including the perpetrator, who tied a bomb to his body, were killed.

President Meets al-Qadhdhafi's Son

PY2407231895 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1538 GMT 24 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Jul (TELAM) — Government sources have reported that President Carlos Menem today met Alsadi Mu'ammar Qadhdhafi, the son of Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, at the Olivos Residence.

The sources added that Menem and Qadhdhafi talked for 30 minutes, from 1030 to 1100, and walked together around the presidential residence's park.

During his visit to the Olivos Residence, the Libyan president's son, who is paying a private visit to Argentina, was accompanied by the Libyan ambassador to Argentina and by an interpreter.

Upon leaving the Olivos Residence, Alsadi Mu'ammar Qadhdhafi, who arrived in Buenos Aires from Tripoli on 21 July, did not make any remarks.

Defense Minister Creates Military Reform Commission

PY2507031395 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 22 Jul 95 p 8

[FBIS Translated Text] Through Defense Ministry Resolution No. 900, signed on 18 July, Defense Minister Oscar Camilion created a working group "tasked with counseling" the defense minister "on the reorganization" of the Armed Forces.

This official measure is the starting point for the military reorganization, which, in the medium-term, should lead to a thorough reform of the Armed Forces, improving their capacity so as to meet their goal: the defense of national sovereignty.

The working group will be coordinated by Ricardo Lagorio, the [Defense Ministry] policy and strategy under secretary, and Budget Under Secretary Alberto Torzillo. The commission will also be made up of Vice Admiral Jose Lavezzo and Brigadier Ruben Zini, who will represent the Joint General Staff. Current Army Staff Director General Anibal Laino and General Ricardo Brinzoni will represent the Army. Vice Admiral Horacio Reyser and Rear Admiral Norberto Pereiro will represent the Navy at the working group.

Air Force Secretary Brigadier Ruben Montenegro and Brigadier Ricardo Ciaschini will represent the Air Force at the working group.

The resolution signed by Camilion establishes that the working group "will form working commissions, with the participation of the appropriate Defense Ministry bodies and the required civilian officials and military officers."

Editorial Views Unemployment's Causes, Remedies

PY2507035795 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 23 Jul 95 p 18

[Editorial: "Creating Jobs"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The increase in unemployment — one of the most disquieting occurrences of the last few years — has reached such important dimensions as to admit of no new delays and to demand resolute measures to provide for the jobless and, in particular, to create new jobs.

Even though economic activity increased considerably from 1991 to 1994, unemployment followed the same behavior because the incorporation into the market of those who were looking for jobs greatly exceeded available openings.

The Menem administration has, on countless occasions, brushed aside this problem on the grounds that it would be something temporary and that, in the last resort, it could be surmounted by rendering labor laws more flexible.

Still, some programs were implemented to encourage temporary jobs and the training of youngsters. While this was a correct measure, it was insufficient to alleviate

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the problem. Moreover, several initiatives were put forward to promote activities which generate numerous jobs, such as construction. Nevertheless, these projects never crystallized, or, if they did, they were of limited proportions.

Obviously, one cannot disregard the fact that budget constraints and tight credit reduce the possibilities of funding the programs in question. It is also true, however, that the upward trend in unemployment was either incorrectly assessed or not enough effort was put into checking it.

The responsibility for this situation rests first and foremost on the economic administration, but also on the other branches that could, and were in a position to, display initiative. The same holds true as regards trade unions, which did not take any preventive measures when the rise in unemployment was already an undisguised reality.

The consequences of the resulting situation are public knowledge — they lead to the impoverishment and the disillusionment of millions of households and to the deepening of social fractures. Joblessness, in turn, brings about a slump in domestic demand, on which most companies, especially smaller ones, depend for survival. The reduction in wages and the laying off of workers may be, in that sense, a temporary solution for firms facing a crisis, but they adversely affect all companies as a whole.

The increase in unemployment also jeopardizes the progress in the adjustment of provincial administrations, whose fiscal imbalances are, to a great extent, due to the creation of new jobs, as positions in the private sector are very scarce.

If unemployment continues unabated, it will destroy the capacity for work and undermine family and community bonds of the jobless. In that regard, the experience of countries having high rates of unemployment for years or of our country's most affected areas is more than illustrative.

The significance of the problems posed for the present and the future indicates that we cannot sit back and do nothing, awaiting the effects the reestablishment of credit and future labor deregulation measures may have on unemployment.

On the contrary, we must act without delay, broadening unemployment insurance and crystallizing the already designed projects to promote employment.

In order to fund these measures, it is in turn paramount to reallocate domestic spending to those priority areas in the social and economic spheres and to improve resource management. This is neither incompatible with the honoring of international commitments nor with the maintenance of fiscal discipline.

Concurrent with this, it is necessary to mobilize new initiatives for the creation of new jobs through the amendment of labor laws in terms of those provisions that indeed hamper job creation. This notwithstanding, one should not over-exaggerate expectations about the impact of these measures, as several endeavors inclined toward flexibility were essayed and others were in fact undertaken, and yet unemployment kept rising.

It is also essential to look for new sources of public and private financing for labor intensive activities and to promote new methods of community organization which, albeit modest, prove to be efficient in the creation of new jobs.

The Menem administration's economic policy has curbed inflation, balanced fiscal accounts, and significantly increased economic activity for four years, something which the public openly acknowledges and praises. Nevertheless, by taking stock of this administration, one also sees an unprecedented increase in unemployment, something which must be assumed and treated with the dedication that this phenomenon deserves.

One cannot forget that the ultimate objective of economic policy must be the improvement of citizens' standard of living and the establishment of the necessary bases for growth and social stability. It ought not to draw a line at the successes obtained on the monetary and accounting fronts.

Defeating unemployment is a task that also requires priority attention and responsibility on the part of the authorities, as well as the determination of all political and social forces that can and must contribute with their ideas and their efforts to taking up the challenge of creating new opportunities for employment and development.

Bolivia

Government To Begin Talks With Party Leaders on Conflict

PY2507020695 La Paz Radio Cadena Nacional Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Following the generalized rejection of the government decision to extend the state of siege, President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada deems it necessary to hold personal meetings with different political leaders. Nationalist Democratic Action [ADN] President Hugo Banzer was the first to be called to a meeting tomorrow, 25 July.

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Social Communications Minister Ernesto Machicao has said that nothing has happened yet and that now, more than ever, is the time for party leaders to join together in a great embrace:

[Begin recording] I believe, and this is the feeling of all government members, that this is the appropriate time to begin talks, especially in light of the fact that we are beginning a period in which we must resolve several pending subjects, such as decentralization. We feel that this is the time for talks with all heads of political parties or top party leaders on subjects as important as decentralization. Considering that this bill will be discussed at the national Congress, we believe that this is the perfect timing for meetings with leaders of political parties. [end recording]

Minister Machicao said that although there is only one week left for discussions, he was hopeful the ADN and the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] would join the coalition:

[Begin recording] We believe this is the appropriate time for talks. And this is the important point. No one will impose pressure, because we believe that an agreement can be reached with the opposition, especially with the ADN and the MIR, on this matter. [end recording]

Aranibar: MBL To Criticize Any Abuse at Isiboro-Secure

PY2507020495 La Paz Radio Cadena Nacional Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Jul 95

[Special report from Santa Cruz through the ERBOL news agency]

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Antonio Aranibar has said that his party, the MBL [Free Bolivia Movement] will criticize any abuse that might be committed at the Isiboro-Secure National Park.

But so far his party members remain quiet, for they feel that no abuse has been committed against the peasants, because the government does not intend to generate a climate of violence in the Isiboro-Secure Park.

Aranibar said that the curfew imposed in that district is restricted, and for this reason the MBL will not allow any police abuse.

Deforestation, Illegal Settlement Endanger El Chore Park

95WN0221A Santa Cruz EL MUNDO (SECCION FORESTAL) in Spanish 23 Jun 95 pp 3-5

[Article: "El Chore Forest Production Reserve in Flames"]

[FBIS Translated Text] *El Chore Forestry Production Reserve has once again been made an area of illegal settlement reaching into the very center of the reserve. Trees are being felled at a steady pace.*

At the end of the second week of June the communications media in the city of Santa Cruz once again denounced the destruction of El Chore Forestry Production Reserve as a result of illegal settlement. At a steady and even growing rate the mountain in the reserve is being cleared along the forest penetration road and in areas served by it. The road was opened by lumbering companies which work in the area.

Over the course of the next few months more than 650 farmers, organized in five syndicates, will fell the trees in 23,000 to 32,000 ha, before the planting season begins in October. Between 36 and 50 ha have been allocated to each of the farmers, depending on their ability to work and the syndicate to which they belong. At present about 19,000 ha North of the 17th parallel of latitude have already been completely cleared and are being burned off.

Each farmer clears an average of half a hectare of forest each day. Some of them have already cleared between 10 and 12 ha of forest. During the coming growing season they plan to sow a large part of these areas, principally with corn and rice.

During a trip through the forest reserve we could see that the settlers have reached almost as far as the gates of Camp Arroyote, where the Marabol Sawmill Company is located. The settlers are pressing to go beyond these limits, following the paths opened for forest use. They have not even respected the signs put up by the Forest Development Center [CDF], which contain a prohibition against human settlement and agricultural activity.

A large proportion of the farmers who have gone into El Chore o73 forest come from Bulo Bulo (Department of Cochabamba), Yapacani (Department of Santa Cruz), Oruro, and Potosi. Their families are located in Bulo Bulo and in Yapacani. No consolidated living quarters have been observed in El Chore forest, and the settlements reportedly change frequently, are irregular, and are of recent date.

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Political Backing

The farmers are organized into five syndicates: Olivos, San Juan, Victor Paz Estenssoro, La Espuma, and 3 de Octubre. They have the support of farmer and political leaders who have encouraged them to go into the forest reserve and stay there, despite legal provisions which state the contrary. This forest has the status of a forest reserve or forestry production reserve, where forestry is the only productive activity permitted.

The farmer leaders know that human settlements in this forest are prohibited. Nevertheless, they claim protection from the slogan of the agrarian reform program: "Land Belongs to Whoever Works It." These leaders base their demand for land in this area on this slogan and assume the right to destroy irreversibly the forest and the biodiversity of the area.

Production of Coca Leaves in El Chore

In answer to the constant questions asked by the press about the possible existence of coca plantings in the El Chore area, the farmers flatly deny this. Some of them say that they moved to El Chore with the money which they received for eradicating their surplus coca plantings in the Chapare area. They have stated that since growing surplus coca is prohibited, they have no intention of planting it. Furthermore, they said that the soil in El Chore reserve is good for any crop except coca. Nevertheless, it is known that there is a possibility that coca is being grown in El Chore, and this is a potential danger.

El Chore Forestry Production Reserve

El Chore Forestry Production Reserve was established under Supreme Decree No. 07779, dated 3 August 1966. Its legal status is based on this decree, which states in Article 2: "Human settlements of any kind are absolutely prohibited, whatever their nature, and the felling of trees or clearing of the forest for agricultural purposes throughout the geographic area set out in this decree are also prohibited." At the same time the reserve is also legally protected by the General Law on Forests which states in Article 147, Section 3: "The establishment of settlements in forestry production reserves is a crime and will be treated as such." Under Decree No. 12268 of 28 February 1975 it is stated in Article 1 that: "All documents, titles, and resolutions of the Agrarian Reform Service, as well as those issued by the National Settlement Institute, which seek to give title to land for agricultural purposes within El Chore and Guarayos Forest Reserves in the Department of Santa Cruz are declared null and void."

According to these legal provisions, the only productive activity permitted in El Chore reserve is forest production. Human settlements, both government sponsored and spontaneous, are completely prohibited, as well as agricultural use of this land. Therefore, settlements which date back to a time previous to the establishment of El Chore reserve are null and void and are prohibited by law.

According to the decree which established it, the forest reserve was created with an area of 900,000 ha, from the 17th parallel of latitude (on its South side) to the intersection of the Grande and Mamorecillo Rivers in the North. Subsequently, its area was expanded to include 1,080,000 ha.

Furthermore, the soils in El Chore Forestry Production Reserve are not suited to any other use than forest production, since they are fragile and poor. The use of these soils for agricultural crops, through deforestation, including cutting down and burning the trees, seriously affects the ecosystem. It also places at risk the investments made by the farmers themselves, since this area is subject to flooding.

Lumber companies which carry on their activities in this forest have agreed to existing law under forest use contracts, in accordance with the provisions of the General Forest Law. There are companies such as the Marabol Sawmill Company which have been working in the area for more than 30 years.

El Chore Is About to Become a Time Bomb

The National Forestry Chamber, through Juan Abuawad, its president, has expressed its concern about the growing pace of destruction of El Chore Forestry Production Reserve. This destruction has been caused by settlers who have entered the area and are clearing the mountain for subsequently clearing unproductive fields due to the fact that soil conditions in the region are not suited to agriculture.

Furthermore, the president of the CNF has pointed out that during 1994 greater damage to the reserve was avoided due to the presence of the Eighth Division of the Bolivian Army, which removed the settlers and protected the area until the rainy season began. He said: "In 1995 settlers moved into the reserve in greater numbers than before. It is hoped that the institution charged with protecting the forests of the country, in coordination with the Bolivian Army, will take appropriate action to prevent greater damage."

He continued: "It is essential to take this kind of protective action. If this is not done, the reserve will be

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destroyed. Undoubtedly, such action must be accompanied by policies and strategies which resolve the social problem of the farmers. Nevertheless, the National Forestry Chamber considers that the o73 Bolivian Government should authorize property rights in the forests under equal conditions for all groups. If this is done, settlers would not need to clear the forest to ensure their alleged property, as is happening now."

Finally, speaking through Juan Abuawad, its president, the CNF has stated that it is the principal group interested in ensuring the protection of the forests. It is coordinating the action needed to stop the destruction in some way of forest areas throughout the country, through action taken by various government institutions. The establishment of illegal settlements and the felling of trees for other purposes is happening not only in El Chore Forestry Production Reserve but also in the Guarayos Reserve, El Bajo Paragua Reserve, in Ixiamas, and, most dramatically, in Isiboro Secure National Park, where it runs along the border with the Department of Cochabamba.

Urgent Action Needed to Slow Down Forest Clearing

At the rate deforestation is increasing, due to the illegal felling of trees, the destruction of El Chore Forestry Production Reserve is now imminent. In 1994 the Eighth Division of the Bolivian Army conducted several operations during the dry season to remove illegal settlers from the reserve. The result was a temporary halt to deforestation. Illegal settlers have returned to the reserve in 1995 and have continued their activities. The authorities, such as the Forest Development Center, have not stopped this illegal activity. Now the damage is irreversible and is increasing at a rapidly growing pace.

Despite the complexity of the problem and the indication that a long term solution is available, it is necessary to take immediate and radical action. This is like planning a coronary bypass operation due to a high level of cholesterol, when there is a possibility of slowing the progress of the arterial blockage in time and avoiding foreseeably disastrous consequences when the first symptoms are observed.

In accordance with data provided by the Forest Development Center, a meeting should be held in the next few days between all of the institutions involved in this problem, including the authorities of the Provinces of Sara and Ichilo and representatives of productive and farmer sectors, to find a solution to the destruction of forest areas and to improve the living levels of migratory farmers.

A Viable, Long-Term Solution

There is a plan. Money, the political will, and imagination are needed to implement it.

The formulation of a strategic plan for the rural development of the Provinces of Ichilo and Sara is a viable, long-term solution to halt the destruction of the forest areas located in these two provinces of the Department of Santa Cruz. This proposal has o73 emerged from a decision by Cordecruz [Santa Cruz Development Corporation] and by the former Ministry of Farmers and Agricultural Affairs, which asked the German Government for related technical advice.

In accordance with the provisions of the Law on Popular Participation Cordecruz is the agency responsible for development planning in the Department of Santa Cruz. It is supposed to coordinate its activities with the various municipalities and with the Ministry of Sustainable Development.

To promote the development of this specific region, Cordecruz adopted the Program for the Regional Development of the Provinces of Ichilo and Sara (Prodisa), which, as an institution independent of Cordecruz, has the following functions: supporting the municipal governments in the preparation of municipal plans (There are five municipalities in the two provinces.); planning at the sub regional level in coordination with the municipal governments and the MDSMA [Ministry of Sustainable Development]; implementing a system of monitoring and evaluation to measure the impact of actions taken under the strategic plan and providing guidance for its adjustment or reform; and supporting municipal governments in prior investment in physical infrastructure in the social, environmental, basic services, and highway construction fields.

To do this, Cordecruz has developed a basic program to support a soil use plan in the Department of Santa Cruz, which will shortly be approved. It will consider the different types of soil as a function of their role in agriculture, cattle raising, and forestry protection and use.

Production services in these areas will be oriented in terms of the specific function of each one of them, with the object of achieving sustainable use of natural resources. To do this, a series of sectoral programs is being considered with a territorial focus. This means that the sub region will be further divided into areas and sub areas with common economic and social factors which will be harmonized in the context of the territorial municipalities. That is, consideration will be given to the establishment of an area of protection, located in Amboro National Park, where

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a program of strict protection will be implemented. Another area of forest use will be located in El Chore Forestry Production Reserve, aimed at achieving sustainable use of the forest. This will include an area for agricultural activities and human settlement, concentrating on support programs for the organization of the people, the provision of basic services (health and education) and infrastructure, and production.

In accordance with agricultural and ecological, social and economic, and environmental criteria this agricultural use and human settlement area will be divided into 10 sub areas. The first and ninth of these sub areas will be located within the present borders of El Chore Forestry Production Reserve. They o73 will be used to relocate recently established human settlements and to set up a buffer zone in which subsistence agriculture will be carried on in association with agricultural, forestry, and cattle raising projects under a system of sustainable forest management.

Within these sub areas provision will be made for the preparation of plans by the five municipalities in the sub region, which would consider the related, specific features of each in terms of their potential and limitations, while respecting the needs of the people living there.

In short, the Prodisa proposal amounts to respecting the role of the soils of the sub region. This is the reason why the Forest Development Center, together with the National Forestry Chamber, Promabosque [Forest Development Program], and Prodisa itself, have proposed it as a planned and definitive solution for the problem of misuse of forest areas. This would affect both production—as in the case of El Chore Forestry Production Reserve—or protection—as in the case of Amboro National Park. Provision would be made for the transfer of all recent and so far unorganized human settlements or those established since the decrees were issued which established both reserves. The people will be resettled in buffer zones located nearby, which would be suited to agriculture, tree farming, and a combination of agriculture and tree farming. These buffer zones would have basic, infrastructure services.

The problem lies in the fact that there is no financing available to carry out this program. As a result, in addition to a need for political will, immediately available financial resources will be needed to stop the destruction of the forests.

Brazil

Closure of U.S. Consulate in Porto Alegre Protested

PY2507020295 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 24 Jul 95

[Report by Francisca Bueno in Porto Alegre]

[FBIS Translated Text] The U.S. Government has decided to close its consulate in Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul State. Deputy Jose Fortunati, Workers Party - Rio Grande do Sul, as well as representatives of the local federation of industries, the local trade associations, the local office of the Union Force, the Porto Alegre Legislative Assembly, the City Council, and the mayor's office today met with acting Rio Grande do Sul Governor Vicente Bobo to request a suspension of the U.S. Government decision to close the U.S. Consulate in Porto Alegre. The group showed the acting governor that this closure does not represent any savings to the U.S. Government, because a new structure will have to be established in Sao Paulo to issue the 55,000 visas granted per year in Rio Grande do Sul. The group added that the decision also causes concern now that the Common Market of the South is being implemented and the state is trying to consolidate its position as a political center of interest within the economic block.

Further on Government's Position Regarding Patent Bill

PY2507020895 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 2030 GMT 23 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Brasilia, 23 Jul (AE) — Senator Fernando Bezerra (Brazilian Democratic Movement Party - Rio Grande do Norte), draft patent bill rapporteur in the Economic Affairs Committee (CAE), must meet the government views in his report. According to Foreign Minister Luiz Felipe Lampreia, who will talk to the CAE on 10 August, the executive branch defends the need to respect the pipeline [preceding word in English] (patenting of inventions that have already become public), as well as the result of research related to the field of biotechnology.

The government will probably not succeed in securing approval of the bill yet this year because the draft bill will have to be reexamined by the deputies as part of an agenda of controversial and politically more interesting topics. The arrival of the draft bill in the Chamber of Deputies will probably coincide with debates on proposals to reform the areas of social security, administration, taxes, and fiscal policies.

Senator Bezerra has reported that he will review the two points of the report by Senator Ney Suassuna (PMDB

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- PB) [PMDB - Paraiba], in which Planalto Palace is interested. The Constitution and Justice Committee (CCJ) has already approved Suassuna's report, from which he withdrew the pipeline procedure and adopted an ordinary law to legislate patent protection in the area of biotechnology. If he hadn't, he would not have convinced his colleagues to approve the text. Bezerra established a one-year grace period for the patent law to take effect, as the government wishes.

Senator Bezerra is the fifth rapporteur of the patent bill in the Senate. The Senate began debating the bill on 24 June 1994, after the bill that replaced the original text, which displeased members of all political tendencies, was approved. Since then, the U.S. Government has been threatening to impose sanctions against Brazil in view of the delay in approving the bill, and pharmaceutical companies' lobbyists, export companies that fear U.S. retaliation, and even the Catholic Church, which opposes patenting of living beings, have been exerting permanent pressure on the Congress.

Chile

Defense Minister Suspends Trip To Williamsburg

PY2507024695 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0028 GMT 25 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Santiago, 24 Jul (EFE) — Due to the strained atmosphere generated by a group of Chilean Army officers' support for a sentenced brigadier, Chilean Defense Minister Edmundo Perez Yoma today definitely suspended his trip to the United States, where he was supposed to attend the Latin American Defense Ministerial.

Perez Yoma, who was supposed to travel yesterday with War Under Secretary Jorge Burgos and adviser Gonzalo Garcia, postponed his departure for today but finally suspended his trip after a meeting with General Augusto Pinochet, former military president and current Army commander.

The defense minister today summoned Pinochet to his office to ask him to conduct an investigation and appropriately sanction some 100 Army officers, dressed in civilian clothing, who visited retired Army Brigadier Pedro Espinoza on Saturday, 22 July.

Since 20 July, Espinoza has been held at the Punta Peuco prison, located 40 km north of Santiago, where he is serving a six-year sentence for the assassination of former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier in Washington in 1976.

Perez Yoma was scheduled to address the inaugural session of the Latin American Defense Ministerial tomorrow. This two-day meeting to be held in Williamsburg, Virginia was summoned by President Bill Clinton.

The massive visit of active-duty Army officers to retired Brig. Espinoza and the statements by some officers to a television channel on 20 July prompted an emergency meeting yesterday at the defense minister's home. The meeting was attended by Interior Minister Carlos Figueroa and Genaroo Arriagada, minister secretary general of the Presidency.

Figueroa asserted to the media that the government considered this visit "worrisome." This was reiterated during a news conference today by Jose Joaquin Brunner, minister secretary general of government.

This visit was also strongly criticized by the member parties of the governing "Coalition of Parties for Democracy" and even by the main opposition party, the National Renewal.

Deputy Camilo Escalona, chairman of the Socialist Party (member of the governing coalition) said that, in his opinion, Pinochet must have known about this visit some 100 officers were going to pay to Espinoza at the Punta Peuco prison because, had he not known, it would mean admitting that subordinates had overlooked their commander's authority.

Today Escalona said that what happened shows that "there is an attitude that persists with regard to overlooking the authority of the government headed by President Eduardo Frei."

Poll Shows President Frei's Popularity Increasing

PY2507021095

[FBIS Editorial Report] Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish on 21 July carries, on page C2, a 600-word report on the results of a poll conducted by the Center for Contemporary Reality Studies, CERC, between 1 and 12 July in 29 cities from the First to the Tenth Region. The results show that 68.9 percent of the 1,240 people consulted believe Chileans have not attained reconciliation, 48 percent want to clarify the cases of human rights violations during the military regime and punish all those responsible, 18.7 percent want to punish those responsible for the most serious cases, 14.5 percent are in favor of pardoning those responsible for these crimes, and 17.8 percent want to drop the issue.

Asked for an opinion on the current administration, 49.5 percent voiced their approval, 23.7 percent do not approve of it, and 24.4 percent are indifferent. The 54.7 percent that approved Frei's government in April has increased to 56.5 percent, while the figure for those who do not approve of it has dropped from 33.7 percent in

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April to 31.9 percent, and those who do not give an opinion remains at 11.6 percent.

Some 75.2 percent of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] supporters, 73.7 percent of the Party for Democracy [PPD] supporters, and 59.3 percent of the Socialist Party supporters back the government.

In addition, 51.5 percent said they support the government's political ideas, 13.7 percent favor the opposition, and 26.3 percent favored neither one or the other. Moreover, 45.8 percent of those questioned believe the country is stagnating, 43.7 percent believe it is growing, and only 8.8 percent believe it is deteriorating.

As for the most popular politicians, 49 percent voiced support for Public Works Minister Ricardo Lagos, 36.7 percent for National Renewal Party [RN] Chairman Andres Allamand, 25.9 percent for PDC Chairman Alejandro Foxley, 15.2 percent for RN Senator Sebastian Pinera, and 14.9 percent for PPD Deputy Jorge Schaulsohn.

Administration Concerned Over Military Rally at Punta Peuco

PY2507022995 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Jul 95

[All names identified by screen captions]

[FBIS Translated Text] The government has expressed its concern over the demonstration staged by military on active duty in front of the Punta Peuco jail.

More than 1,000 persons rallied in front of this prison to express their solidarity for Brigadier Pedro Espinoza, who was sentenced for the Orlando Letelier murder.

Wearing civilian clothing, military personnel, including several officers, chanted military marches and raised several banners. In addition to staging a demonstration in support of Espinoza, they said that the Army is the target of persecution.

[Begin Army Lieutenant Colonel Jose Antonio Pavez recording] It is at this time that we must prove we are united. We will not tolerate any infiltrations or allow these people to destroy the Army with their new ideas. [end recording]

This situation caused concern within the administration. In view of this, Interior Minister Carlos Figueroa; Genaro Arriagada, minister secretary general of the Presidency; Foreign Minister Jose Miguel Insulza; and Justice Minister Soledad Alvear held a meeting at Defense Minister Edmundo Perez Yoma's private residence. It was a three-hour confidential meeting during which the cabinet members discussed the extent of the incident at Punta Peuco.

[Begin recording] [Interior Minister Carlos Figueroa] This is a demonstrative rally, which is a source of quite some concern. It is a demonstrative rally because it gives evidence that there is annoyance within the Army's cadre of officers over the enforcement of the sentence affecting Brig. Espinoza and all the ensuing implications.

Likewise, it is also a source of concern because, above and beyond the fact that the demonstration was staged by officers wearing civilian clothing and during a holiday, it gives evidence of a degree of consensus on staging a demonstration of this nature, which is obviously quite a source of concern.

[Unidentified reporter] Will the administration request that the Army commander issue an official explanation in this regard?

[Figueroa] Look, more than official explanations, today we discussed the practical and political consequences of what occurred yesterday in the vicinity of Punta Peuco.

We have also kept the president permanently informed about the situation and we will continue to study events. [end recording]

Moreover, there were several expressions of reaction at the political level with regard to the rally at Punta Peuco.

[Begin recording] [Socialist Party Deputy Jose Antonio Viera-Gallo] I believe this military demonstration proves that the military is meddling in national political affairs. I believe this is a direct and explicit intervention on the part of the Army in national political affairs. To be more precise, it is not the Army that is meddling in national political affairs, but the military personnel who attended the demonstration certainly are meddling in national political affairs.

[Party for Democracy Senator Sergio Bitar] This demonstration was attended by a group of people who are certainly entitled to do so in a democracy. But we must be reasonable and admit that in order to strengthen the state of rights, all Chileans must uphold the decisions of the courts and enforce the law. Therefore, any demonstration that may seem to question a court ruling is not suitable for Chile.

[Communist Party of Chile Secretary General Gladys Marin] It is up to the administration to resolve this situation by stopping this military blackmail. We must stop this constant threat, this manipulation of fear that the Armed Forces are allowed to exert because they are in possession of the guns that the people handed them to defend the nation.

[National Renewal Senator Miguel Otero] I categorically do not believe the military are exerting pressure

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through the staging of this demonstration. The Army has been extraordinarily respectful of the national Constitution and of the law.

As Chilean citizens, however, all Armed Forces members can exercise all their rights in compliance with the law when they are off duty. Moreover, the law does not specify anywhere that you are prohibited from visiting a person who is in jail, which, in addition, is a humanitarian gesture.

[Christian Democratic Party President Alejandro Foxley] What we are witnessing here today are transition government problems that have been swept under the rug, problems that we have refused to confront but must resolve.

In addition to the civililan-military ties and the human rights issuses, we must also admit the fact that we have an imperfect Constitution that does not properly define the ties between the military and civilian powers. [end recording]

Pinochet To Investigate 22 Jul Demonstration

PY2507025795 Santiago Universidad Catolica Television Internacional in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Defense Minister Edmundo Perez Yoma has suspended his trip to the United States due to the situation prompted by the visit paid by a group of Army officers to the Punta Peuco prison.

The defense minister summoned Army Commander General Augusto Pinochet to discuss the subject.

In the meantime, the Army intelligence commander reiterated that the act was a spontaneous meeting that does not violate any regulation. [passage omitted]

The presence of Army officers at this act of support for Brigadier Pedro Espinoza and the statement by Army officers, in civilian clothing but on active duty, prompted various political reactions.

The most important government measure took place today: The defense minister suspended his trip to the United States, where he was supposed to attend the first Latin American Defense Ministerial, in Virginia.

This morning the minister summoned Army Commander Gen. Pinochet to his office to discuss the situation at Punta Peuco on Saturday, 22 July.

The meeting, to which the media did not have access, started past 1100 and lasted 40 minutes.

Through a communique, the Defense Ministry disclosed that Gen. Pinochet will order an internal investigation and will apply the necessary disciplinary sanctions provided by the Army regulations.

In the meantime, activities at Armed Forces headquarters today were normal. [passage omitted]

Court Rejects Reopening of Trial Involving Pinochet's Son

PY2507034195 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2355 GMT 21 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Santiago, 21 Jul (EFE) — The second criminal court of Santiago today rejected a petition by the State Defense Council to prosecute three retired Army officers and Augusto Pinochet Hiriart, son of current Army Commander General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, for fraud against the Treasury.

The accusation refers to the transfer of the Valmoval rifle factory to the Chilean Army, a transaction carried out in 1989 that supposed the delivery of three checks totaling $3 million in the name of Augusto Pinochet Hiriart.

The following officers were also involved in this deal: retired General Guillermo Letelier, former vice president of the Production Development Corporation; retired General Fernando Hormazabal, former chief of the Military Industries Command; and retired Brigadier Luis Arangua, former representative of the Army within the Valmoval company.

With today's resolution, Judge Jorge Colvin reaffirms the ruling he issued on Friday, 21 July, by which he closed the case after two years of investigations and without establishing liabilities.

According to the accusers, the transfer of Valmoval, created in 1970 by a group of businessmen for the purpose of manufacturing Swiss "SIG" rifles, caused tremendous losses to the Treasury.

The State Defense Council's decision to request the reopening of the so-called "pinochecks" case had caused, according to military sources, a "profound uneasiness" within the Army, which interpreted the request as a sign that certain civilian sectors intend to "intimidate" the institution.

Defense Minister Edmundo Perez Yoma had minimized these remarks and said that the process affects private individuals and not the institutions.

This case, when unleashed in 1993, was the object of a broad investigation by the Chamber of Deputies, which established that Gen. Augusto Pinochet Ugarte was not aware of the operations in which his son was involved.

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Paraguay

Commander Oviedo Gives Army Day Address

PY2507004295 Asuncion Cerro Cora Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 2018 GMT 24 Jul 95

[Speech by General Lino Cesar Oviedo, army commander in chief, on the occasion of Army Day in Asuncion on 24 July — live]

[FBIS Translated Text] Your Excellency Engineer Juan Carlos Wasmosy, president of the Republic and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the nation [applause]; Mrs. Teresa Carrasco Wasmosy, first lady of the nation [applause]; Your Excellency Dr. Angel Roberto Seifart, vice president of the Republic, and distinguished wife; Army General Andres Rodriguez, senator for life and former president of the Republic of Paraguay [applause]; honorable members of the national Congress; your excellencies the ministers of the executive branch; Messrs members of the diplomatic corps; Division General Silvio Rafael Noguera, commander of the Military Forces, and wife; Messrs the commanders in chief of the armies of Argentina, Brazil, and Bolivia, and Messr the Chief of Staff of the Uruguayan Army; Messr the Rector of the National University of Asuncion; deans and members of the Superior University Council; Messrs the chiefs of staff of the Armed Forces; Messr the Commander of the national Navy; Messr the Interim Commander of the Air Force; Messrs active and retired generals and admirals; Messr the Commander of the National Police; glorious former combatants of the Chaco War [applause]; Messrs governors of departments and mayors; Messrs heads of government institutions; Messrs military attaches of friendly countries; Messrs officers, subalterns, and active and retired non-commissioned officers of the Armed Forces of the nation and of the National Police; Mr President and members of the National Council [words indistinct]; ladies and gentlemen:

Soldiers of the Paraguayan Army: [applause] A commemoration of significant importance unites us on this Day of the Paraguayan Army and birthday of the most important national hero: Marshal Francisco Solano Lopez. [applause]

The illustrious presence of His Excellency Engineer Juan Carlos Wasmosy, president of the Republic and commander in chief of the nation's Armed Forces, is very significant, and it is also an honor to have him here. [applause] It is an honor to have his selected entourage and the presence of the commanders in chief of friendly countries: Argentina, Lieutenant General Martin Balza [applause]; Brazil, Army General Zenildo de Lucena [applause]; Bolivia, Army General Adel Montero [applause]; and Uruguay: General Luis Pirez [applause].

These distinguished soldiers are also legitimate actors in the field of regional integration. We are aware that today, in this southern part of the continent, the peoples and governments unite with the common purpose of harmonious development, which includes the coordination of all of its institutions, including the oldest institution in view of its historical roots and one of the most venerable in view of its heroic traditions: The armed forces of each of our nations. [applause]

On such an august occasion, we cannot but express the sentiments of profound loyalty that the Paraguayan Army has for the government that is so patriotically presided over with dignity by Engineer Juan Carlos Wasmosy. [applause]

We are aware of the importance of the responsibility that encourages and obligates us, together with our glorious national Navy and distinguished Paraguayan Air Force, at this historical time that the country is now experiencing.

Its government is undertaking the enormous and delicate task of renewing the Republic in its most diverse aspects. The renewal at times consists of reestablishing traditional values, and in this aspect the Armed Forces firmly continue to be willing to obey the postulates of the Constitution, and to have them obeyed. [applause, cheers]

On this so very significant day, we respectfully and admiringly pay homage to all the military personnel, recalling the heroes of the Big War [1864-70, against the Triple Alliance] and of the Chaco War, and all those who, in one way or another, offered their lives without hesitation. [applause] They gave us freedom in democracy, and consolidated with their own holocaust the glorious traditions that we protect.

Let their example always be the light that guides our steps as we seek to constantly improve ourselves in the service of the fatherland.

In memory of all of them, the Paraguayan Army, faithful to its traditions, reaffirms its decision to continue to support our republican institutions. [applause] Thus a guarantee for the development of democracy and for the effective enforcement of citizens' rights will be established.

The brilliant history of the Paraguayan Army begins with the shout of freedom that made all the people stand up to make our independence a reality, and with consolidating the Republic and maintaining its

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sovereignty, assuming the historical and fundamental mission of national defense.

Today, it strongly continues toward a future to which all of us are committed because we have to face great challenges, something that demands a lot of training. Therefore, on this day when the people and the Paraguayan family greet the soldier who is the sentry of our sovereignty, it is appropriate to renew our commitment to the fatherland. [applause] And if the fatherland once again calls upon us, we will once again defend it shoulder to shoulder. [applause]

The new Paraguay that is immersed in the new democratic process is a new fatherland, and as we advance in fraternal embrace, in harmony, with moral nobility, dignity, justice, respect, and freedom, we will be honoring the sacrifice of our heroes [applause] and the efforts of our forefathers.

Soldiers of the glorious Paraguay Army, today receive my most affectionate and fervent message of greetings. It contains my acknowledgment of and gratitude for your professional efforts, for your silent and untiring work.

I do so out of respect for the democratic institutions, the national Constitution, and the laws, and with love for the Paraguayan fatherland, with abnegation and courage. [applause] Thank you very much. [applause]

Wasmosy Denounces Attempt To Destabilize Country

PY2407192195 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 23 Jul 95 p 18

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] President Juan Carlos Wasmosy said yesterday that some people, operating "from a cowardly and anonymous position," are attempting to alter the life of the nation in order to return to an obscure stage of our history. The president said this during the official ceremony to inaugurate the 14th Expo [industrial and agricultural fair] in the town of Mariano Roque Alonso. The president reiterated that the illegal occupation of land is not the way to solve problems.

The president said: "These people are taking advantage of the situation to start rumors that will directly affect national banks and sow the seeds of chaos, confusion, and anxiety, and extend the difficulty to other banks in order to create a climate of unrest leading to the break up of the democratic process." [passage omitted]

This is the first time President Wasmosy has talked about the existence of individuals who seek to disrupt the democratic process, but once again he failed to complete the information, forgetting to give the names of those who use rumors to create chaos.

The president made these remarks when talking about the financial situation. Wasmosy said the Central Bank discovered serious irregularities in the way some banks were being administered by people who think the law and the clean-up process were mere government intentions.

The president said: "When we verified what was happening, which was hurting many people, we realized we had no alternative but to intervene four banks and some associated entities. The move was not an attempt to defend banks or their irresponsible administrators, but to safeguard the financial system and honest savers."

Wasmosy said these measures, although painful and costly, are the price society must pay to break with the past and the problems that drag on, in order to structure a clean, efficient, and honest new financial system. This new system should permit easier access to credits at market rates, a more efficient administration of funds at lower interest rates, and the rerouting of our financial resources from the path of speculation into production and industry.

The president also expressed satisfaction over the political support of ANR [National Republic Association - Colorado Party] and opposition and congressional leaders for his measures to shore up the financial system and to safeguard legal savers and depositors interests. We have also "decided to work together on other necessary measures to permit the return of the informal economy to the path of normalization." Wasmosy emphasized that his government will support national banks "as required by the situation."

The president also said that respect for private property is the foundation of a democratic state which assures peaceful coexistence, adding that any violent interruption conspires against the social balance. The president said his government has facilitated the people's access to their own piece of land, but it has also assumed a commitment to protect owners. He said: "No one and nothing are above the law in this country. We must respect the law equally."

Wasmosy also said: "The illegal occupation of land is not the way to solve problems." He urged peasants not to listen to people who encourage them to "violate the law. Join the dialogue that will bring about pacification," the president said.

The president said: "People must understand that the law means justice and that honest work means wellbeing. These are the tools that must be added to the work of institutions to permit us find solution to social problems and assure us a civilized, constructive, and profitable coexistence."

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Wasmosy admitted that he had inherited a particularly difficult and conflictive situation in the area of agrarian reform and rural development, pointing out that to overcome the situation his administration is trying hard to create the institutional conditions and the necessary environment to encourage dialogue and consensus as the main way to solve this inherited crisis. [passage omitted]

Group of Lebanese 'Terrorist' Suspects Extradited

PY2407144295 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 24 Jul 95 p 24

[All names as published]

[FBIS Translated Text] The group of Lebanese who are believed to have taken part in the attack on the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires in 1992 were finally extradited at noon yesterday after a long and tense delay.

Sergio Rodrigo Salem, Luis Alberto Nader, Johnny Moraes Baalbaki, Mohammed Hassan Alayan, Fadi Karim Abdul Chekair, Roberto Riveiro Ruiz, and Brazilian citizen Valdirene Vieira Ferguglia were escorted to Buenos Aires by Argentine border and federal police aboard an Argentine Naval Prefecture plane with license PA-61. The group of Lebanese nationals left the Tacumbu prison and boarded a Penal Institute van at 0800. They were guarded by a group of prison guards headed by Tacumbu Prison Security Chief Vicente Falcon.

The van drove to the premises of the Specialized Group [Prison Police] and from there to the airport. Security was provided by about 20 anti-riot and intelligence police agents who wore hoods to prevent them from being seen by the alleged terrorists.

The police followed the van in a camouflaged armored vehicle with sharpshooters and a Chevrolet patrol car.

Before departing, the Arabs were examined by Forensic Doctor Jose Nicolas Lezcano to check for any sign of ill-treatment.

At 1245 Judge Jose Emilio Yaluk, after completing the appropriate legal steps, handed over the group of Arabs to seven Argentine police agents waiting at the airport.

Peru

'Strict' Surveillance in Place for Fujimori Inaugural

PY2507031895 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1731 GMT 24 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Lima, 24 Jul (EFE) — A strict system of surveillance, control, and dragnet operations is in effect as of today in Lima to prevent terrorist actions during the national holiday, which coincides this year with President Alberto Fujimori's second inauguration.

Government sources have reported that Lima is being patrolled by more than 100,000 police and military troops, while an unspecified number of agents have been deployed to reinforce the safety of political and government personalities.

The patrolling responsibility has been entrusted to the corps of elite security forces who move in all-terrain vehicles, wear combat uniforms, and are heavily armed.

Dragnet operations are simulataneously carried out in different points of the city in search of terrorists at large, and in some neighborhoods the search is carried out house to house.

According to a Lima radio station, hundreds of people were arrested at dawn today in different points of Lima either because of lack of documents or because they are wanted by court officials.

Furthermore, mobile and heavily protected watch posts have been established on the main highways leading to the city in an effort to detect an unspecified number of stolen vehicles.

Car theft is a common practice by terrorists, who use them as transport means or to make car-bombs for future attacks.

Security measures have been multiplied and reinforced to the maximum because the Shining Path terrorist gang is determined to carry out an offensive, apparently intended to tarnish the ceremony marking the inauguration of President Fujimori's new administration.

Within that framework, the terrorists had exploded two car-bombs, one against a casino-hotel and one against the house of Congress Vice President Victor Joy Way, respectively.

They also murdered two soldiers who were guarding the house of a general, and a union leader in Lima, in addition to 16 soldiers in an ambush carried out last Thursday [20 July] in the jungle locality of Aucayacu.

So far seven Latin American presidents and high-ranking representatives of the United States, Spain, Japan, and other countries, have confirmed their presence at the inauguration of the new administration.

The Latin American presidents who will be present are: Carlos Menem from Argentina, Fernando Henrique Cardoso from Brazil, Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada from Bolivia, Ernesto Samper from Colombia, Eduardo Frei from Chile, Julio Maria Sanguinetti from Uruguay, and Rafael Caldera from Venezuela.

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The other personalities who will also be present are Spanish Senate President Juan Jose Laborda; Alexander Watson, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Latin American affairs; UN Under Secretary General Joseph Verner; and OAS Under Secretary General Christopher Thomas.

They will all be protected by numerous Peruvian security, police, and military agents who have been equipped will all necessary means to carry out their mission: helicopters, armored vehicles, modern communications equipment, and sophisticated weapons.

Perez de Cuellar Urges Government To Respect Human Rights

PY2507034395 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1811 GMT 23 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Lima, 23 Jul (EFE) — Former UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, president of the Union for Peru (UPP), has announced that during President Alberto Fujimori's new administration he "will demand" respect for human rights and "strict fulfillment of the state of law."

Perez de Cuellar's political statement was released today, 23 July, in Lima, by the UPP executive committee, five days before the second inauguration of President Fujimori, reelected in the 9 April 1995 general elections.

The UPP has become the second Peruvian electoral force according to the results of the elections, in which the former UN secretary general was President Fujimori's main opponent.

The statement was released on the eve of the official ceremonies that will begin tomorrow, 24 July, and end with the president's assumption of power for a new five-year period on 28 July. Meanwhile, Peruvians are still shocked by a terrorist attack in which 16 soldiers and 20 members of the Maoist Shining Path group died.

In the UPP statement, Perez de Cuellar stresses his movement's status as the second political force and adds that the UPP "assumes the democratic responsibility of overseeing the government administration."

It adds that the UPP "will demand fulfillment of the Constitution, respect for human rights, and the strict fulfillment of the state of law."

The statement adds that the UPP will defend the rights and autonomy of the institutions of the civil society, such as the universities, political parties, unions, communications media, professional schools, organizations and associatons in general, which he defines as "pillars of democracy."

Perez de Cuellar repeatedly criticized what he considers President Fujimori's "authoritarianism" in his government administration, as well as the lack of dialogue and consensus between his administration and other sectors.

The statement also "invites" the government "to show its democratic leaning by guaranteeing the attributions and power of Congress, the judicial branch, the Attorney General's Office, the constitutional court, the ombudsman, the Armed Forces, the national police, and the diplomatic service."

It also "invites" President Fujimori's next administration, which will end in the year 2000, to declare "its respect" for municipal autonomy and to begin a decentralization process in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

The document, signed by the former UN secretary general, urges the government to assume a commitment to guarantee "openness and morality in all acts of public administration."

It also claims that Fujimori's administration to begin on 28 July must, in cooperation with Congress, assume its obligations in the areas of education, health, nutrition, and social security, and must fight poverty by paying "special attention to the problems affecting the development of children and youth, and to the preservation of the environment."

The political statement stresses the UPP's "strong rejection" of terrorism, and notes that national reconciliation and the country's pacification "must be carried out with measures that will strengthen democracy, respect for human rights, and support for the abandoned" because of the political violence prevailing in the country.

In conclusion, the six-point document signed by Perez de Cuellar states that his group will maintain an attitude of "firm and zealous defense" of the national borders and of the international treaties that give them political support.

It expresses hope for "full agreement" between the UPP and the government on the matter, and urges the government to establish a Peruvian international political policy within the next five years, "as well as to actively reaffirm Peru's policy of integration with Latin America and the rest of the world."

Perez de Cuellar is currently out of the country and must return early in August, according to Alfonso Grados Bertorini, elected UPP congressman and coordinator of the UPP's national executive committee, in remarks to the press.

President Fujimori won the Peruvian general elections held on 9 April; he was reelected with 64.42 percent

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of the votes, while the former UN secretary general obtained 23 percent.

Reactions to Amnesty Law Detailed

95SM0424A Lima CARETAS in Spanish 22 Jun 95 pp 22-28, 74, 89

[Unattributed article: "When Forgetting Is a Bad Thing"; introductory paragraph in italics as published]

[FBIS Translated Text] *Instead of reconciliation, polarization and division. Those are the consequences of an unjust and unpopular law that ought to be revised.*

The indignation caused by the amnesty law promulgated on Thursday the 16th has reached unforeseen levels, as is reflected in a poll by Support, Inc. But that popular feeling has been accompanied by equally unexpected echoes such as the attitude of Judge Antonia Saquicuray, who declared the law inapplicable to the Barrios Altos case being investigated by her.

Last Friday's "sit-in" in front of Congress, organized by relatives, human rights activists, and students, will be followed this coming Friday the 23rd by a march called by organizations and prominent figures who will also promote a referendum to repeal article 1 of the law in question.

Unusual movements in a few military units also point to the possibility of problems in the military area.

But President Alberto Fujimori does not seem inclined to back down. He is probably relying on a repeat of what happened at the beginning of last year, when his popularity dropped 10 points after the passage and promulgation of the "Cantuta law." That drop did not prevent him from winning an overwhelming victory in the elections on 9 April.

Fujimori is reportedly confident that the rough period brought on by approval of a law rejected by public opinion and the release from prison of the members of the Colina Group will soon pass and that the citizens' concerns will soon drift to other matters.

In Chile, Augusto Pinochet issued a law in 1978 to protect the military, but he was unable to include the case involving the murder of Orlando Letelier in Washington, which has now brought about the trial and conviction of two former heads of Dina [National Intelligence Directorate].

When Patricio Ayllwin took office, he appointed a commission to draw up a report on human rights violations that would result in moral condemnation, since judicial condemnation was not possible, and provide a mechanism for indemnifying the relatives of those who had disappeared.

In Uruguay, Julio Maria Sanguinetti issued a broad amnesty law releasing military men and Tupamaros. That law was approved in a national referendum.

Military Also

Retired officers such as FAP [Peruvian Air Force] Colonel Carlos Raygada have expressed their disagreement with the amnesty law. In a conversation with CARETAS, Raygada welcomed the amnesty "for those military unjustly tried and convicted for having done their duty in such areas as defending constitutionality and democracy, denouncing participation by the military in the crimes in La Cantuta, and expressing an opinion on political, diplomatic, and military conduct during the recent conflict for the sole purpose of contributing to the defense of national sovereignty."

But the officer deplored the unrestricted amnesty granted "to those convicted and investigated in connection with the cases in La Cantuta and Barrios Altos and in the prisons, since those crimes were no doubt committed with premeditation, viciousness, malice aforethought, and treachery, on top of which the effort was made to conceal those crimes behind military or police sanction and authority."

Col. Raygada criticized the comparison drawn by President Fujimori and Minister of Foreign Relations Goldemberg between the amnesty law and the law on repentant terrorists. To be covered by that last-named law, terrorists had to have been uninvolved in attacks causing the loss of human life—Raygada points out—whereas the amnesty law makes it possible to release criminals. To benefit from the amnesty law, an individual is required to have cooperated with the courts and informed against accomplices and leaders, but those convicted in connection with La Cantuta did not cooperate in any way whatsoever. Furthermore, comparing the two laws in that way means that it would be possible to amnesty or pardon not only Abimael Guzman and his people but also Leonel Figueroa, Hector Neyra, and Carlos Manrique, something that is unacceptable.

International Reaction

The law was received just as badly abroad as it was at home. The vigorous statement by the U.S. State Department was received coldly and in absolute silence by the Peruvian Government.

Spokesman Nicholas Burns said this:

"We are deeply concerned both by the essence of this law and by the peremptory manner in which it was approved. We regret that President Fujimori signed this law. In doing so, he is demonstrating to the world a

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lack of serious commitment to the protection of human rights, a principle on which there is broad consensus in this hemisphere."

The severity of that unusual statement and the direct criticism of Fujimori place relations with the United States on a level of frostiness that had been considered part of the past.

Human rights organizations such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch also issued immediate statements. Juan Mendez of the latter institution granted an interview to the CNN network and said that the amnesty for those convicted in the La Cantuta case confirmed suspicions that the Colina Group had been acting under the state's protection.

The government's image abroad, which might have improved following the elections on 9 April, has therefore suffered a devastating blow as a result of the amnesty law.

Other Laws

Government spokesmen have tried to argue that similar laws have been passed elsewhere in Latin America and the world. Actually, there are considerable differences in what has happened elsewhere. The most striking difference is that when amnesty laws have been passed, armed conflicts had already ceased and the governments passing such laws were different from the ones under which human rights violations had occurred.

In Argentina, Raul Afonsin faced up to a serious legal and political battle and approved the "full stop" law and the "due obedience" law, which excluded low-ranking officers. But the high-ranking officers were tried and convicted. Carlos Menem immediately issued a pardon for both the military and the guerrilla fighters, but he also granted a pension to the families of the 8,960 individuals whose disappearance was proven.

Lastly, Raygada does not believe the promise "that no more excesses by the security forces will be tolerated." That, the officer says, "is pure demagoguery."

Unfavorable Public Opinion

Description	Percent
Disapprove of amnesty for La Cantuta culprits	87
Support the amnesty	8
Don't know or no answer	5

Description	Percent
Support discharge of La Cantuta culprits	92
Let them remain in the service	7
Don't know	1
Approve of Fujimori's administration:	
On 12 June	76
On 17 June	68
Disapprove of Fujimori's administration:	
On 12 June	17
On 17 June	28

Source: Support, Inc.

The Courage of 'No'

On the afternoon of Tuesday 13 June, a hesitant Gilberto Siura began defending the controversial draft amnesty law that leaders of the government party had ordered him to present.

"There's no problem with Siura. He does what he must," a member of New Majority commented the next day. With no conviction whatever, he simply carried out his task as quickly as possible. Lourdes Flores of the PPC [Popular Christian Party] immediately took the floor. She delivered a vigorous speech.

"Is it so hard for Fujimori to live under the boot of General Hermoza? Does he feel the weight of the vote he received last 9 April so lightly that he is incapable of putting a stop to the absurd pressures being placed on him by the General Command? This law is simply one more illustration of the political model which we are living under in Peru and which we will continue to combat firmly and clearly. It is the model of democracy under military control."

Addressing the majority, the leader of the PPC concluded her speech with these words: "Go along with General Hermoza in your fear, give in to his blackmail, let yourselves be controlled, and let supervised democracy continue to exist in Peru. I regret it because I hope for the release of men who should never have been sent to prison, but we are not going to change the situation at the cost of blackmail and forgetting events which do deserve punishment. This law simply unacceptable to a democrat."

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It was the clarion call of dignity and courage. One by one, the members of the opposition expanded on that solid rejection.

And they were followed by government party members Cesar Fernandez Arce, who not only disagreed with Enrique Chirinos Soto but also criticized him, and by Carlos Ferrero, Ricardo Marcenaro, Carlos Torres, and Torres Lara, as well as Carlos Blanco's silent abstention.

According to pro-government sources, it was not by drawing straws that Siura was picked to present the bill. It was an order that the congressman accepted immediately with unconcealable willingness.

"In discussions of this kind within the New Majority-Change 90 alliance, many people prefer to remain silent and pledge discipline. It is obvious that in a plenary session, many choose to stay away or to abstain without—as far as possible—anyone's realizing it," confessed one member of the pro-government bloc.

The discussion by the cabinet was also short and to the point. The ministers accepted what Congress had approved, realizing that the process was one that had been used before: President Fujimori was hiding behind Congress to avoid being the only one responsible for measures having wide legal repercussions. But Fernando Vega Santa Gadea expressed his opposition to the law approved by Congress, not only because of its effects within the country but above all because it would compromise Peru's international position in the field of human rights. Not in vain has he been the country's representative before the UN Committee on Human Rights. Those close to him point out that Vega Santa Gadea's stand is similar to the one he adopted on the Cantuta law, which he also did not sign.

Editorial: Reconciliation?

It is abominable that the government should be invoking an alleged zeal for reconciliation to justify the disastrous amnesty law that was recently promulgated. Abominable because ever since the day of engineer Fujimori's reelection on 9 April, his regime has been sponsoring witch hunts—some against retired military men, others against mayors in opposition parties, and several against university people.

The path to reconciliation does not lead through impunity, contradictions, or cynicism. There is nothing conciliatory about the way in which the government party has been forcing passage of last-minute laws in these final days of the CCD [Democratic Constituent Congress]. There is no spirit of dialogue in the steamrolling of the minority and of basic parliamentary rules.

The only thing the government seems to consider important is reconciliation between the members of the death squads and those responsible for truly extreme atrocities—that being the only kind punished over these tragic 15 years—and little value is being placed on the feelings of family members, constitutional principles, or the international commitments Peru has made.

No similarity exists between this law, which establishes impunity and promotes abuse, and the system governing the so-called repentant terrorists. To be considered a repentant terrorist, a rebel must cooperate with the courts and inform on accomplices. In contrast to that, Martin Rivas has been rewarded for keeping his mouth shut.

This twisted pact of loyalties and the tolerance of state terrorism, far from being the inevitable consequences of an internal conflict, are the main reasons why Shining Path has lasted so long.

Shining Path's defeat began with Abimael Guzman's capture thanks to police intelligence work, the strengthening of the rural patrols, and the ruin of the repentant ones, not as a result of massacres generating huge antibodies within the population.

Now the government has assigned priority to relations with its partners in the high command while disregarding a vast feeling of condemnation which, overcoming indolence, has arisen in public opinion. A deplorable way to begin a new period in power.

Some Human Rights Cases Detailed

95SM0424B Lima CARETAS in Spanish 22 Jun 95 pp 31-33, 81

[Unattributed article: " What They're Covering up"; introductory paragraphs in italics and boldface as published]

[FBIS Translated Text] *The amnesty law not only frees the guilty but also prohibits the investigation of unresolved cases.*

Promulgated last week, the amnesty law frees proven perpetrators of horrifying crimes and erases their criminal record. It also permanently closes hundreds of cases involving human rights violations that have not been cleared up.

Situations like the one involving Chilean General Manuel Contreras, who was sentenced for a crime committed two decades ago, presumably cannot arise in Peru if the amnesty law (Law No. 26479) is fully enforced.

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The most outstanding result of the amnesty law has been the release of the La Cantuta murderers. But there is much more. Article 6 of that law says this:

"The actions and offenses covered by this amnesty, as well as the permanent dismissals and acquittals, are not subject to investigation, inquiry, or legal proceedings, and all cases before the courts, whether in hand or in execution, are permanently closed."

That last clause refers to cases such as the Barrios Altos case, a crime committed in 1991 but one which the judicial branch began investigating only recently (see the separate article [not included here]). But there are others that were dismissed by the ordinary or military courts.

One of them was the massacre in Cayara, a case closed by order of the provincial prosecutor in Victor Fajardo on 23 January 1990 even though a great mass of evidence of the crime exists. What happened in Cayara was this: on 14 May 1988, an Army detachment raided that community, located in Victor Fajardo in Ayacucho, and killed 31 peasants in reprisal for the fact that Shining Path had ambushed an Army patrol in Erusco the day before.

For a week, by order of the Military-Political Command, neither the press nor the civilian authorities had access to that area. When they did reach the town, the corpses had disappeared. Several witnesses were murdered later—Guzman Bautista Palomino, Gregorio Ipurre Ramos, Humberto Ipurre, Benigna Palomino de Ipurre, Catalina Ramos Palomino, and Jovita Garcia—and Prosecutor Carlos Escobar, who investigated the case, had to flee the country because of threats and the lack of protection.

That case, for example, even though closed, could have been reopened in circumstances different from those prevailing today. But the amnesty law prevents that from happening.

A variation on that situation is the case of the disappearance of reporter Jaime Ayala. On 2 August 1984, Ayala was seen entering the Marine barracks in the Huanta stadium. He was never seen alive again. Ayala was a correspondent for the newspaper LA REPUBLICA and worked for Radio Huanta 2000.

Following a lengthy trial in which the military-political commander of Huanta, AP [Peruvian Navy] Major Alvaro Artaza Adrianzen, alias "Camion," was charged, the Supreme Court decided in 1986 that Artaza should be tried in the ordinary courts. It was the first and only time the Supreme Court ever ruled that a military man accused of violating human rights should be tried in the ordinary courts. Its ruling was never carried out because Artaza disappeared from circulation.

The case of Jaime Ayala could have been reopened before the amnesty law was promulgated. Now Major "Camion" could come back to Peru. Because neither would it be possible to reopen the case of the first graves in Pucayacu or that of the slaughter in Callqui, where the chief defendant—that same Artaza—was acquitted in February 1986 by a special military court.

On 23 August 1984, a common grave containing 50 corpses was discovered in Pucayacu, Huanta. Several of them were identified as prisoners who had disappeared at the hands of Marine units commanded by Major "Camion." He was also accused of ordering the slaughter of six missionaries in Callqui on 1 August 1984.

The murder of CARETAS correspondent Hugo Bustios, which occurred in the vicinity of Huanta on 24 November 1988, will also go unpunished if the amnesty law is enforced. In this case, investigations by reporters had made it possible to identify those presumed responsible: Army Lieutenant Colonel Victor Fernando La Vera Hernandez and Army Major Amador Vidal Sambento. But the case was closed.

The same fate awaits the cases involving several other reporters who were murdered or who disappeared.

In the relatively few cases in which those responsible were tried and sentenced, the sentences will be annulled and the guilty parties released. The best-known case is probably that in La Cantuta, but it is not the only one. Another is the massacre in Soccos, Ayacucho, that occurred on 13 November 1983 when a police patrol arrested everyone attending a wedding party and murdered them all.

Eleven police officers guilty of killing 32 peasants were given prison sentences of 25, 15, and 10 years. Luis Albert Davila Reategui was to be released from prison in 2009, Jorge Tejada Brenis in 2003, and Luis Machado Tanta in 2000. Now they, and others besides, are going to be released at any moment.

The same thing will happen to Captain Telmo Hurtado, who was responsible for the massacre in Accomarca on 14 August 1985 in which 69 peasants, including 23 children, were murdered. That may have been the biggest slaughter in the antisubversive war. Early in 1993, following an extremely lengthy trial, Hurtado was sentenced to six years in prison by the military court.

Also to be released are those responsible for the prison slaughter on 18 and 19 June 1986. A military court punished several police officers responsible for the murder

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of 124 unarmed prisoners who had surrendered. Now Colonel Narciso Azabache, Lieutenant Javier Marquina, Second Lieutenant Eladio Bobadilla, and others will be set free. There will be no possibility of reopening the case of the slaughter in El Fronton, in which 118 prisoners died—many of them executed after surrendering. That case was closed by the special military court.

Venezuela

Economic Solidarity Program Supports Microbusinesses

PA2407144095 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 22 Jul 95

[From "The News" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] There is no doubt the Economic Solidarity Program is an important tool for combating the crisis. The government is determined to make every effort to enable the people to promote a truly competitive economy.

Forty-four community organizations from all across the country attended an event to reaffirm the Economic Solidarity Program, which supports self-employment, microbusinesses, and cooperatives. President Rafael Caldera said these areas are important economic development factors at a time when unemployment is prompting widespread anxiety.

[Begin Caldera recording] We have faith in the Economic Solidarity Program. We regard microbusinesses as a very special instrument — an extremely adequate instrument with which to deal with the critical situation and generally modify the country's economic life. We do not believe in an authoritarian state. We do not believe in an omnipotent state that establishes and imposes standards citizens must necessarily obey. We do believe in an equitable state — one that is watchful of community interests. [end recording]

This program includes plans for market networks that offer discounts ranging from 10 to 30 percent, laying the groundwork for the program's main goal of heightened competitiveness.

[Begin recording; speakers identified by caption] [Family Minister Mercedes Briceno] We must learn to trust one another. This is the opportunity that the Economic Soldarity Program presents. Mutual trust represents an entirely new opportunity which involves not only productivity, but also cooperation in production, which will enable us to become more competitive.

[Luis Delgado Bello, Fund for Cooperation and Financial Assistance for Corporations (Foncofin) president] It is the organized communities that have been pushing the productive process, keeping it free from exploitation and speculation. Here are the popular organizations which, through sacrifice, hope, perseverance, and ability, carry out production and commercialization via microbusinesses.

[Cooperative representative Marjorie Hernandez] Experience and commitment are the basis for meeting the challenges posed by Economic Solidarity projects. [end recording]

Within a few days, Foncofin and the Youth Ministry will sign an agreement to develop youth microbusinesses in the state of Miranda and Nueva Esparta, as well as in the Federal District.

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